

## MINUTES OF BENTON COUNTY QUORUM COURT

December 16, 2008

On December 16, 2008 at 6:00 p.m., County Judge Gary Black re-convened the Session of the regular Quorum Court meeting of **November 20, 2008** and announced the re-convened business as follows:

- (A) Proposed Appropriation Ordinance Levying 2008 Taxes For Collection In The Year 2009 For Benton County, And Each City, School District And Special Tax Unit in Benton County, Arkansas; Sponsor: JP Tim Summers

JP Wolf made motion to read by title only, seconded by JP Moore. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Deputy Clerk Betsy Harrell read the proposed appropriation ordinance by title only. JP Wolf made motion to approve, seconded by JP Hubbard. JP Summers stated that this ordinance is required every year to allow all of the taxing entities to collect their tax dollars.

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

- 12 yeas: Brown, Glass, Harrison, Hill, Hobbs, Hubbard, Moore, Summers, Williams, Winscott, Wolf, Wozniak  
1 absent: Stephenson

Appropriation Ordinance duly adopted and assigned No. **O-2008-34**.

JP Hill made motion to adjourn the November 20, 2008 Quorum Court meeting, seconded by JP Summers. Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 6:05 p.m.

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## MINUTES OF BENTON COUNTY QUORUM COURT

December 16, 2008

A regular meeting of the Benton County Quorum Court was held on Tuesday, December 16, 2008 immediately following the adjournment of the November 20, 2008 Quorum Court meeting 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 Harrell called roll as follows:

12 JP's Present: Brown, Glass, Harrison, Hill, Hobbs, Hubbard, Moore, Summers,  
Williams, Winscott, Wolf, Wozniak  
1 absent: Stephenson

JP Wolf made motion to suspend the rules and read all ordinances by title only, seconded by JP Summers.

Motion passed by unanimous voice vote.

The presiding officer led the pledge of allegiance to the flag. Reverend Bill Rogers of the Word of Life Fellowship led the prayer.

A moment of silence was held in support of the men and women serving in the United States Armed Forces.

**MINUTES:**

JP Winscott made motion to approve the Minutes of the regular meeting of November 20, 2008 as distributed, seconded by JP Hill. Motion to approve the minutes carried by unanimous voice vote.

**COUNTY JUDGE'S REPORT:**

County Judge Gary Black announced that he has appointed Glenn Jones to the Benton County Historical Preservation Commission. JP Summers made motion that the appointment be confirmed, seconded by JP Wolf.

Appointment confirmed by unanimous voice vote.

County Judge Gary Black announced that he has appointed Nancy Feroe to the Benton County Historical Preservation Commission. JP Summers made motion that the appointment be confirmed, seconded by JP Wolf.

Appointment confirmed by unanimous voice vote.

**ELECTED OFFICIALS REPORT:**

None

**COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

None

**PUBLIC COMMENTS:**

None

**OLD BUSINESS:**

None

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- (A) Proposed Appropriation Ordinance Amending Appropriation Ordinance No. O-2007-30 (2008 Benton County Budget) Appropriating Additional Monies And Authorizing Additional Expenditures in Various Funds And Departments; And To Amend *Schedule 1 – Revenues By Fund* in the 2008 Benton County Budget, By Increasing the Amount of the Assessor Transfer To Equalization Board, Fund 050; Sponsor: JP Tim Summers

Deputy Clerk Betsy Harrell read the proposed appropriation ordinance by title only. JP Summers made motion to adopt, seconded by JP Winscott. JP Summers stated that the appropriation ordinance has been through the Finance Committee and Committee of Thirteen and addresses some budget adjustments in Rural Fire Services, the Equalization Board, and some renovation costs for the courtroom and offices to be occupied by Judge Green.

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

12 yeas: Brown, Glass, Harrison, Hill, Hobbs, Hubbard, Moore, Summers, Williams, Winscott, Wolf, Wozniak

1 absent: Stephenson

Appropriation ordinance duly adopted and assigned No. **O-2008-35**.

**OTHER BUSINESS:**

County Judge Gary Black presented a slide show illustrating the various milestones and accomplishments of his administration, including: the establishment of the Comptroller position; GEMS accounting software; initiating the renovation of the War Eagle Bridge; the mobile command unit for the Department of Emergency Management; upgrades to the CenCom call center and equipment; the development of award-winning GIS technology which is now being used by 9-1-1 Administration for mapping and by the Sheriff's Department for tracking criminals and crime statistics; the development of the Human Resources Department; upgrading of security cameras throughout county buildings; development of a county website; the Community Service Work Program; the replacement of several low water bridges; upgrades to the Road Department fleet and equipment; the development of an Environmental Department and Environmental Officers; the public shredding and Pyromeds pharmaceutical disposal programs; and the purchase of 12 new fire trucks for volunteer fire departments throughout the county.

County Judge Gary Black presented plaques to all of the departing JPs, including; Christian Glass, who served one term; Frank Harrison, who served three terms; Debra Hobbs, who served one term; David Hill, who served three terms; Beverly Williams, who served 13 months of an unexpired term; and Tim Summers, who served 7 terms.

JP Kurt Moore presented a plaque to County Judge Gary Black from the Quorum Court thanking him for his eight years of service to Benton County.

County Judge Gary Black presented a plaque to outgoing County Clerk Mary Lou Slinkard thanking her for 28 years of service to Benton County. County Clerk Mary Lou Slinkard stated that when she

began her first term as County Clerk, Quorum Court meetings were held in the Public Service Building out on Highway 102, with folding tables and chairs, no public address system, and all county offices were located in the old courthouse building. She said that she has seen tremendous growth in the county, the time has passed quickly, and she could not have done it without her fine staff. She said she is confident that County Clerk-elect Tena O'Brien will do a fantastic job, and she is looking forward to her new position as State Representative.

County Judge Gary Black presented a card and flowers from the Quorum Court members to County Attorney Robin Green in appreciation for her service to the Quorum Court. Robin Green stated that she has great respect for all of the Quorum Court members and their healthy, interactive discussions, and has been honored to work with them.

JP Hill stated that he feels that the new Quorum Court will be highly competent.

JP Summers stated that he has appreciated the opportunity to serve Benton County for the last 14 years, and as Quorum Court members, they are not always appreciated. He said that Benton County's Quorum Court is as good as any in Arkansas, and thanked the County Clerk's office staff for all of their assistance. He commended County Judge Gary Black for the progress made under his administration, adding that he has made a real difference in the county. He thanked the Elected Officials, County Attorney Robin Green, and Comptroller Richard McComas for all of their hard work. He said that the county is in good shape financially, but urged the new Quorum Court to be very careful and to guard the dollars they have during these upcoming difficult economic times. He said that the taxpayers are the county's clients, and deserve for the budget to be examined very carefully. He encouraged the new court to continue healthy debate, because a good idea will withstand examination.

JP Williams thanked everyone on the court for making her feel welcome and getting her involved. She said it has been a good experience, an educational experience, and she has learned a lot. She urged those leaving for state offices to remember the challenges that are still facing the county.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS:**

County Judge-elect David Bisbee announced that the 2009 Quorum Court Organizational Meeting will be held Monday, January 5, 2009 at 6:00 p.m.

After motion and second, meeting adjourned at 7:15 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tena O'Brien,  
County Clerk

Prepared by Betsy Harrell