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HEADING

INDEPENDENCE COUNTY QUORUM COURT  
JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

February 10, 2009

The Independence County Quorum Court met in regular session on Monday, February 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009 at 6:00 P.M. in the Jess Carpenter Building. Judge Bill Hicks presided. County Treasurer Linda Foreman, County Collector Janet Perkey and County Clerk Karen Wooldridge were present. Members of the Court present were:

|                  |               |
|------------------|---------------|
| Tim Stewart      | Larry Nelson  |
| Gary Bridgman    | Danny Carter  |
| Deborah Wyatt    | Bill Cash     |
| Anne Moore       | Waymon Long   |
| Bobby Weaver     | Tony Thompson |
| Margaret Boothby |               |

A motion was made by Boothby to approve the minutes of the January 5<sup>th</sup>, 2009 regular meeting. Thompson seconded. All members voted yea.

Thompson made a motion to approved the minutes of the special meeting held on January 9<sup>th</sup>, 2009. Bridgman seconded and all members voted yea.

Judge Hicks announced that the Budget Committee had met and appointed Margaret Boothby as Chairperson. Boothby then gave a report on the January 7<sup>th</sup> meeting. She informed the court they had discussed the property on lower Main Street and had given Judge Hicks the authority to have title work done. Judge Hicks stated that the title work had been done and a few problems had been uncovered that would need to be taken care of before continuing. He stated that the Owners and their Bankers were in negotiations. Boothby also told the court that the committee discussed replacing an employee in the Juvenile Probation Office and the special meeting on January 9, 2009 was for that purpose. She also informed the court that the discussion to approve for the Judge to spend \$1, 500.00 to build a cabinet in the Court House to house a Civil Was collection. Boothby then made a motion to the full court to approve the \$1, 500.00 to build the cabinet. Thompson seconded. and all members voted yea.

The Sheriff's reports were handed out. Long asked about the large amount of comp time for the deputies on the report. Claudette Parks told the Court that there were labor laws which they had to follow with a limit of up to 270 hours per person. Bridgman suggested that a plan to take care of this needed to be enacted. Stewart made a motion for the Law Enforcement Committee to meet with the Sheriff. Weaver seconded. All members voted yea. Judge Hicks stated that a meeting would be set up for this.

The Treasurer's report was handed out with the treasurer stating that Sales Tax was up by 5%. She also handed out year to date report for 2008 money.

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Bill Walmsley presented the court the proposed Articles of Incorporation for the Economic Development Fund. He read the Articles of Incorporation to the court explaining each Article. Long made a motion to approve the Articles of Incorporation. Thompson seconded. All members voted yea.

Glen Willis, Stacy Caplener, and Janet Perkey spoke to the court regarding the Placement of volunteer fire membership dues on the Real Estate Tax Statements. They explained that each fire department would have the choice of doing this and then notify the Tax Collector if they decided to have it put on. Perkey stated that at this time Desha and Pleasant Plains fire departments had decided to do this. Wyatt made a motion to allow the fire departments to decide to put the volunteer dues on the tax statements or not. Moore seconded. Those voting Yea: Stewart, Bridgman, Wyatt, Moore, Boothby, Cash, Long, Thompson. Those voting Nay: Weaver, Nelson and Carter. Motion carried.

There were no citizen's comments.

Long introduced Resolution 2009-02, A resolution supporting the Sales and Use Tax Bond Proposal of the City of Batesville, Arkansas; And prescribing other matters relating thereto. The Clerk read the resolution in its entirety. Thompson seconded. All members voted Yea.

Cash introduced Resolution 2009-01, a resolution authorizing the County Judge to apply to the Delta Regional Authority for 2009 funding. The Clerk read the resolution in its entirety. Judge Hicks explained that this would be to apply for a grant to rebuild or relocate the Firefighters Training Center. He explained that the grant would pay for all of the expense. Long seconded. All members voted yea.

Wyatt introduced Ordinance 2009-06, an ordinance authorizing the transaction of business between Independence County and an elected official according to the provisions of Arkansas Cord Annotated Section 14-14-1202 (2)(A). Long asked to be excused while to Court discussed this since it involved him. The Clerk read the ordinance in its entirety. Stewart seconded. With Long abstaining from voting all other 10 members voted yea.

Moore introduced Ordinance 2009-07, an ordinance amending ordinance 2008-43, and the annual budget for 2009, section G, Hydro Electric Project, for the purpose of establishing a line item entitled "Flood Disaster Recover" within the other services and charges category of the Hydroelectric Project Budget, appropriating funds therefore; amending anticipated revenues, for the calendar year 2009. The Clerk read the ordinance in its entirety. Hydro reports were handed out with the court recognizing Rita Potts for the fine job that she does. Thompson seconded. All members voted yea.

Judge Hicks stated that Ordinance would need to be pulled since some of the things needed to have been done had not been done and that there would be an Interlocal meeting with the City of Batesville on Thursday, February 12, 2009 at 3:00 P.M. at City Hall. He announced that the Court representatives would be Anne Moore and Bill Cash for the Interlocal meetings with Batesville and Newark.

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Boothby introduced Ordinance 2009-09, an ordinance establishing funds for County Road Department purposes, County Road Department Fund, in accordance with Ordinance number 76-1978. The Clerk read the ordinance in its entirety. Nelson seconded and all members voted yea.

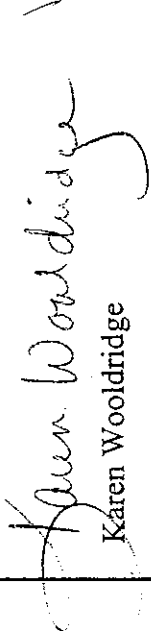
Twyllah Acklin, Executive Director of the Family Violence Prevention spoke to the Court about the balance of 2008 money that they failed to request before the year closed. She handed out materials and explained how much money has been cut for them causing a cut in programs, staff hours, and employee insurance benefits. Cash made a motion to appropriate the money. Wyatt seconded and all voted yea.

Judge Hicks asked the Courts permission for the Library to fill 2 existing positions, Senior Citizens 1 existing position and two existing positions in the County Road department. After much discussion, Cash made a motion to allow the Judge the authority to approve the filling of any existing position that would need to be filled immediately and to fill these requested hirings. Moore seconded. All voted Yea.

Tommy Bryant gave the Court the City of Batesville's appreciation on their help with the upcoming Sales and Use Tax Election.

Without any further business meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Karen Wooldridge