

**PROCEEDINGS OF UNION COUNTY QUORUM COURT  
MARCH 20 , 2014**

**MINUTES**

The regular monthly meeting of the Union County Quorum Court was held on March 20, 2014 in the Union County Courthouse. Judge Mike Loftin called the meeting to order and led the Court in the Pledge of Allegiance. Justice Don Traylor led the Court in an opening prayer. The Clerk called the roll from the following list:

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|-------------------------|---------------------|
| <b>JOHNNY BURSON</b>    | <b>CASEY PLATT</b>  |
| <b>HARRELL CHANDLER</b> | <b>CECIL POLK</b>   |
|                         | <b>DEAN STOREY</b>  |
| <b>MIKE DUMAS</b>       | <b>DON TRAYLOR</b>  |
| <b>JUSTIN HENDRIX</b>   | <b>BENNY VESTAL</b> |
| <b>CAROLYN JONES</b>    |                     |

Ten Justices were present with Justice Will Crowder absent and the following business transacted.

The Justices were previously mailed a copy of the minutes of the February 18, 2014 Quorum Court meeting. A motion for adoption was made by Justice Vestal and seconded by Justice Hendrix. Motion carried.

The Justices were also mailed a copy of the Budget Comparison and a copy of the Recap of Revenues for the month of February 18, 2014. A motion for adoption of the Budget Comparison and Recap of Revenues was made by Justice Burson and seconded by Justice Storey. Motion carried.

An Ordinance sponsored by Justice Traylor and to be entitled "An Ordinance Appropriating Funds". Section 1. There is hereby appropriated the sum of \$40,231.00 from unappropriated County General Funds to Fund 1000-Dept 0111- (MWR Buildings) – Line 4003 (C/O Improvements). A motion was made by Justice Storey and seconded by Justice Hendrix. The clerk called the roll and the following Justices answered in the affirmative: Dumas, Hendrix, Chandler, Storey, Jones, Polk, Burson, Vestal, Traylor, and Platt. Those answering in the negative: None. Those abstaining: None. Ordinance No. 1293 was approved as read.

An Ordinance sponsored by Justice Traylor and to be entitled "AN ORDINANCE TRANSFERRING AND APPROPRIATING FUNDS". Judge Loftin gave additional information in the fact that we have been digging gravel in Hampton under contract at .35 a yd and they now want an increase to .85 a yd. The contract was cancelled and we are now digging in Jersey on a 20-acre tract with County ownership, which is what this money will be appropriated for. We can dig 10 ft. deep and will see a lower budget in the next few years with the 20-acre pit lasting about 5-6 years. Section 1. There is hereby transferred the sum of \$100,000.00 within Fund 2000-Dept 0200 ( Highway ) from Line 2027 (Gravel, Dirt, & Sand) to Line 4001 (C/O Land/Gravel Pit). Section 2. There is hereby appropriated the sum of \$150,000.00 from unappropriated County Highway Funds to Fund 2000 – Dept 0200 Highway) – Line 4001 (C/O Land/Gravel Pit). A motion was made by Justice Storey and seconded by Justice Hendrix. The clerk called the roll and the following Justices answered in the affirmative: Dumas, Hendrix, Chandler, Storey, Jones, Polk, Burson, Vestal, Traylor, and

Platt. Those answering in the negative: None. Those abstaining: None. Ordinance No. 1294 was approved as read.

An Ordinance sponsored by Justice Traylor and to be entitled "AN ORDINANCE TRANSFERRING FUNDS". Section 1. There is hereby transferred the sum of \$14,350.00 from Fund 1000 – Dept 0414 (SAYS) Line 3009 (Other Professional Services) to Fund 3031 – Dept 0414 (SAYS) – Line 3009 (Other Professional Services). A motion was made by Justice Jones, and seconded by Justice Platt. The clerk called the roll and the following Justices answered in the affirmative: Dumas, Hendrix, Chandler, Storey, Jones, Polk, Burson, Vestal, Traylor, and Platt. Those answering in the negative: None. Those abstaining: None. Ordinance No. 1295 was approved as read. The Clerk also mentioned that anytime funds needs to be moved from one fund to another, by law, it has to be approved by Quorum Court.

An Ordinance sponsored by Justice Traylor and to be entitled "AN ORDINANCE TRANSFERRING FUNDS AND AMENDING THE FY2014 BUDGET". Section 1. There is hereby transferred the sum of \$22,000.00 from District Court Automation Fund (#3003) to Fund 3003 (District Court Automation) – Dept 0409 (District Court) – Line 4004 (C/O Machinery & Equipment). A motion was made by Justice Dumas, and seconded by Justice Vestal. The clerk called the roll and the following Justices answered in the affirmative: Dumas, Hendrix, Chandler, Storey, Jones, Polk, Burson, Vestal, Traylor, and Platt. Those answering in the negative: None. Those abstaining: None. Ordinance No. 1296 was approved as read.

An Ordinance sponsored by Justice Traylor and to be entitled "AN ORDINANCE REMOVING A FUND AND DEPARTMENT FROM AND AMENDING THE FY2014 BUDGET". Section 1. It has been determined that Fund 3035(Criminal Justice ACT 1256) should be removed from the FY2014 Budget. Section 2. These funds should stay in County General to help support District Court's Budget (ACT 1256). Section 3. The FY2014 Operating Budget is hereby amended to reflect this change. A motion was made by Justice Jones and seconded by Justice Chandler. The clerk called the roll and the following Justices answered in the affirmative: Dumas, Hendrix, Chandler, Storey, Jones, Polk, Burson, Vestal, Traylor, and Platt. Those answering in the negative: None. Those abstaining: None. Ordinance No. 1297 was approved as read.

The first Resolution mentioned authorizing the County Judge to work with Southwest Arkansas Planning and Development District in a Hazard Mitigation Plan. The county's current plan expires December, 2014, so in order to be eligible for grants and funding, a plan has to be in place. The preparation of this is \$25, 000.00 and paid out \$5,000.00 each year for 5 years. The price normally would be \$40,000.00 – to \$50,000.00, but with other counties involved, there are able to give a better rate. Justice Burson make a motion to adopt the resolution and Justice Vestal seconded it.

**A RESOLUTION BY UNION COUNTY, ARKANSAS AUTHORIZING THE PREPARATION OF, AND PAYMENT FOR, AN UPDATE TO THE EXISTING FIVE-YEAR HAZARD MITIGATION PLAN. WHEREAS, the United States Federal Emergency Management Agency requires that an approved Hazard Mitigation Plan be in place prior to the award of Pre-Disaster Mitigation implementation grant funding; and Whereas, FEMA-Approved Hazard Mitigation Plans are valid for a period of five years from the date of adoption; and WHEREAS, the existing Union County Hazard Mitigation Plan has an expiration date of December 2014; and Whereas, the Southwest Arkansas Planning and Development District, Inc. (SWAPDD) has offered to prepare the Five-Year Update to the Hazard Mitigation Plan for the total sum of twenty-five thousand dollars paid in five annual installments of five thousand dollars each; and WHEREAS, Union County has a long-standing**

relationship with SWAPDD and feels confident that SWAPDD will prepare a thorough and accurate Five-Year Update to the Hazard Mitigation Plan that is acceptable to FEMA; NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that Union County hereby authorizes the County Judge to take all legitimate actions necessary to contract with SWAPDD for the preparation of a Five-Year Update to the Hazard Mitigation Plan that is acceptable to FEMA. Justice Dumas inquired if it also covered the city, and the consensus was that it covered all of Union County. The Clerk called the roll and the following Justices answered in the affirmative: Justice Dumas, Hendrix, Chandler, Storey, Jones, Polk, Burson, Vestal, Traylor, and Platt. With a vote of 10 Yeas and 1 Absent, the motion carried. Resolution # 448 was approved as read.

According to Judge Loftin, The next resolution authorizes him to place for public bid two pieces of property belonging to Union County. One is the Beauchamp home which is in a state of ill repair, and the second is one acre with a wood frame house that was donated by Wells Fargo, which the county cannot use.

**AUTHORIZING RESOLUTION: WHEREAS,** The Union County Quorum Court hereby authorizes Union County Judge Mike Loftin to offer for public bid pursuant to A.C.A. 14-22-101, the Murphy Beauchamp Home located at 530 E. Hillsboro, El Dorado, Arkansas 71730. **WHEREAS,** the property is in such a condition of deterioration and cannot be used to the advantage by Union County and that the best interest of Union County, Arkansas will be served by the sale of the property. **WHEREAS,** the Union County Quorum Court also hereby authorizes Union County Judge Mike Loftin to offer for public bid pursuant to A.C.A. 14-22-101, property located at 2655 Pigeon Hill Road, Strong, Arkansas, 71765. **WHEREAS,** proceeds from the sale of the above listed properties shall be deposited in the proper accounts with the Union County Treasurer. **NOW, THEREFORE,** be it resolved that Union County Judge Mike Loftin, is hereby authorized to begin the bid process on the above listed properties on behalf of Union County. A motion was made by Justice Dumas and seconded by Justice Chandler. The clerk called the roll and all Justices answered in the affirmative: Dumas, Hendrix, Chandler, Storey, Jones, Polk, Burson, Vestal, Traylor, and Platt. Those in the negative: None. Those abstaining: None. Resolution # 449 was approved as read.

Quorum Court looked over the Final Audit Report FY2012 from the Legislative Auditing Committee. There were no findings, but a concern for the cash money received from Felsenthal for ice. Judge Loftin said the money is kept in a box and deposited into the bank, and sees no way for it to be done differently. A motion for approval was made by Justice Chandler and seconded by Justice Hendrix. All ten Justices were in favor of the audit . Motion carried.

Two letters of appreciation for the generous allocation the county provided came from South Arkansas Developmental Center for Children and Families, Inc. and also from Community Living Arrangements, Inc.

Justice Polk gave an update from the Insurance Committee Meeting. It was brought up that employees have a 30 day probation period and some are terminating shortly thereafter. Discussion was made and agreed upon to extend the probation period to 60 days and also mail order prescriptions would be in the best interest of the county and also for employees. Concerns about refunding premiums in mid-month if someone terminated was also brought up. Some thoughts were to refund the employee and Coresource would adjust the statement, but nothing was finalized at this time.

Audience member Steve Ward had a few questions concerning the above Ordinances passed and questions about the gravel pit details, etc. which were answered by Judge Loftin.

A motion to adjourn was made by Justice Chandler and seconded by Justice Storey. The meeting was adjourned.

