

Committee of the Whole Report

March 08, 2016

The Committee of the Whole met Tuesday, March 08, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. in the Quorum Court Meeting Room, Benton County Administration Building, Third Floor, 215 East Central, Bentonville, Arkansas.

15 JPs Present: Sheridan, Shadlow, J. Harrison, Allen, K. Harrison, Adams, Jones, Sandlin, Anglin, Slinkard, Chiocco, Leadabrand, Moore, Meyers, Moehring

Others Present: County Judge Bob Clinard, Comptroller Brenda Guenther, Assessor Linda Hambrick, Major Shawn Holloway, JP-Elect Bob Bland

Media: Tom Sissom – Northwest Arkansas Democrat-Gazette

Committee of the Whole chair JP Kurt Moore called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

PUBLIC COMMENTS

None.

JP J. Harrison made a motion to suspend the rules and read all ordinances and resolutions by title only, seconded by JP Jones.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

1. Resolution Request Confirming the County Judge's Re-appointment of Chris N. Flynt to the Benton County Rural Development Authority; Sponsor: JP J. Harrison

Committee of the Whole chair JP Moore read the resolution request by title only.

JP J. Harrison stated that this resolution request is a re-appointment to the Rural Development Authority for Position No. 4.

JP J. Harrison made a motion to forward this resolution request to the March 17, 2016 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP Adams.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

2. Resolution Request Authoring the Submittal of an Application for Arkansas Community and Economic Development Program Funds to the State of Arkansas; Sponsor: JP Barry Moehring

Committee of the Whole chair JP Moore read the resolution request by title only.

JP Moehring announced that this is a grant request for the Arkansas Community and Economic Development Program that was forwarded from the March 03, 2016 Finance Committee meeting. He stated that it requires a public hearing.

JP Moehring made a motion to forward this resolution request to the March 17, 2016 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP Chiocco.

Comptroller Brenda Guenther announced that the public hearing has been scheduled for March 17, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. before the Quorum Court meeting. She said that this is to reapply for septic tank improvement but also for a childcare facility with Siloam Springs that got approved to move forward.

JP Adams asked how the money is allocated to the public if the grant is approved.

Brenda Guenther stated that she does not know for sure at this time but it is most likely first come, first serve.

JP Leadabrand asked who is doing the hearing on March 17, 2016.

Brenda Guenther said that Jay Stallard, with the NWA ECD, is the grant administrator for the Northwest Arkansas area. He will explain and describe the program, as well as answer any questions, at the public hearing.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

3. Appropriation Ordinance Request Amending Appropriation Ordinance No. O-2014-84 (2015 Benton County Budget) Authorizing a Transfer of Funds Between Categories and Line Items; Appropriating Additional Monies and Authorizing Additional Expenditures in Department 0107, Quorum Court and Department 0113, Accounting/H.R., Fund 1000; Sponsor: JP Barry Moehring

Committee of the Whole chair JP Moore read the appropriation request by title only.

JP Moehring stated that this appropriation request is a clean-up ordinance that has no net effect on the budget; it just moves funds in between accounts to continue cleaning up the budget from last year.

JP Moehring made a motion to forward this appropriation request to the March 17, 2016 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP J. Harrison.

Comptroller Brenda Guenther announced that this will be the final FY 2015 budget clean-up appropriation request as the FY 2015 budget is now closed.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

4. Appropriation Ordinance Request Amending Appropriation Ordinance No. O-2015-69 (2016 Benton County Budget) to Create a New Fund in Department 0105, County Assessor, Fund 3651 to be Entitled “Assessor GIF Grant” and to Amend *Schedule 1 – Revenues by Fund* to Reflect an Increase in Revenues and Expenditures Therein; Sponsor: JP Barry Moehring

Committee of the Whole chair JP Moore read the appropriation request by title only.

JP Moehring stated that this is an ordinance that allows the county to receive this GIF grant and appropriate and expend it out of the Assessor’s office; it has no net effect on the budget.

JP Moehring made a motion to forward this appropriation request to the March 17, 2016 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP Jones.

JP Sandlin asked if this is a new line item or fund.

Comptroller Brenda Guenther stated that she is reusing a fund that has been used in the past but it is a new fund for FY 2016.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

5. Appropriation Ordinance Request Amending Appropriation Ordinance No. O-2015-69 (2016 Benton County Budget) to Amend *Schedule 1 – Revenues by Fund* by Authorizing a Transfer from County General, Fund 1000 to County Road, Fund 2000, and to Appropriate Additional Monies and Authorize Additional Expenditures in Department 0200, Road Department, Fund 2000; Sponsor: JP Michelle Chiocco

Committee of the Whole chair JP Moore read the appropriation request by title only.

JP Chiocco stated that this an appropriation ordinance for \$250,000 from County General to County Road. It deals with the FEMA funding reimbursements and was discussed at the March 03, 2016 Finance Committee meeting.

JP Chiocco made a motion to forward this appropriation request to the March 17, 2016 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP Sandlin.

JP Slinkard asked if this is the 2015 money that they are waiting on.

Comptroller Brenda Guenther stated that it is not; this is from the new storm that happened in December 2015. She said they are assuming \$2,000,000 in storm damages, of which 87.5% will be reimbursed by the state. This appropriation request is for the remaining \$250,000.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

6. Resolution Request Authorizing the County Judge of Benton County to Apply for an Endeavor Foundation Grant to House At-Risk Juveniles FY 2016; Sponsor: JP Tom Leadabrand

Committee of the Whole chair JP Moore read the resolution request by title only.

JP Leadabrand stated that this is a resolution for the approval of an Endeavor Foundation grant of \$250,000 for the construction of a facility for the shelter kids who are not in lock-up. It is revenue-neutral for the county. He stated that a question came up as to whether it needs to go to the Finance Committee or just straight to the Quorum Court agenda.

JP Leadabrand made a motion to forward this resolution request to the March 17, 2016 Quorum Court agenda, seconded by JP Slinkard.

JP Moore stated that, being as it was placed on the Committee of the Whole agenda, he assumed that it was going on to Quorum Court.

JP Allen said that, because there is no money coming out of the budget, they agreed to send a resolution in support of this project to the Quorum Court. He said that it will have to go through the Finance Committee when an appropriation is needed. He stated that this started in the Public Safety Committee and they bypassed the Finance Committee because no money is involved in this resolution request.

JP Moore stated that, unless anyone disagrees, this vote will be to send it on to the Quorum Court agenda.

JP Allen asked for clarification as to the amount; it was originally for \$350,000 and has been reduced to \$250,000.

County Judge Bob Clinard said that he and Circuit Judge Tom Smith met with the Division of Youth Services and the Department of Human Services, two different organizations that deal with the licensing for the JDC. He stated that this has never been done before so there were a lot of hoops to jump through to determine what they needed to do. He said that the budget first started out at \$500,000 and then went down to \$350,000. Judge Clinard got with the DHS and the DYS and they told him what they needed in the facility. He said they wanted a classroom, counseling rooms, a place to sleep and eat, for it to be completely separate from the rest of the detention center with a separate entrance and exit, and for the residents to be able to leave any

time they want to. He got a draftsman and contractors to give him budgets on all the major issues – HBAC, electrical, drywall, mechanical, and plumbing. He put a budget together and it was around \$200,000. This is why it was reduced to \$250,000. They would do their own management of the project but all the work would be done by subcontractors. They will hire an architect to give some basic approval because anything over \$100,000 in Arkansas has to have an architect – this is also in the budget.

JP Moore asked if it is mostly internal modifications to the building.

Judge Clinard stated that it is pretty much all internal modifications. He then presented the design plan to the JPs from the dashboard. A short discussion was held about the plans and the timeframe of the project.

Motion passed by unanimous show of hands vote.

OTHER BUSINESS

Comptroller Brenda Guenther reminded the JPs of the public hearing next Thursday, March 17, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. before the Quorum Court meeting.

JP Jones reminded the JPs that the March Quorum Court meeting has been moved up a week to March 17, 2016 because of Spring Break.

JP Leadabrand reminded the JPs about the Daylight Savings Time adjustment on Sunday.

JP Allen asked if there would be early voting before the run-off election on March 22, 2016.

JP Moore said it starts on March 15, 2016.

JP Slinkard added that there will be early voting for one week only.

JP Moore stated that the website does not show any no voting sites, early or otherwise, in Siloam Springs.

JP Slinkard said there would be voting at the County Clerk's satellite offices.

JP Moehring stated that all three of the County Clerk's offices in Bentonville, Rogers and Siloam Springs will be available for voting.

JP Jones reviewed the website, found the information, and said that the County Clerk's office in Siloam Springs only allows early voting. He then read off the Election Day voting centers in Siloam Springs to the JPs from the website as the Siloam Springs Community Building and the Heritage Missionary Baptist Church.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

JP Slinkard made a motion to adjourn.

JP Moore declared the meeting adjourned at 6:25 p.m.