

MINUTES OF BENTON COUNTY QUORUM COURT

April 15, 2016

A special meeting of the Benton County Quorum Court was held on Friday, April 15, 2016 at 5:30 p.m. at the Benton County Administration Building, 215 East Central Avenue, Bentonville, Arkansas, pursuant to proper call and notice.

County Judge Bob Clinard called the meeting to order.

Chief Deputy Clerk Betsy Harrell called roll as follows:

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

A legal quorum was present.

The presiding officer led the pledge of allegiance to the flag and the prayer.

JP Allen made motion to limit public comments to fifteen minutes total and two minutes per person, seconded by JP Jones.

JP Adams spoke against the motion.

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

11 Yeas: Sheridan, J. Harrison, Allen, K. Harrison, Jones, Sandlin, Anglin, Slinkard, Meyers, Moore, Moehring
4 Nays: Shadlow, Adams, Chiocco, Leadabrand

Motion passed.

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

Mike Clifford of Bentonville asked the Quorum Court to pass a resolution stating that any elected official charged with a crime and convicted will reimburse the citizens all pay received back to the date the charges were filed.

NEW BUSINESS:

- (A) Proposed Resolution Accepting the Resignation of the Sheriff of Benton County and Declaring a Vacancy in the Office of the Sheriff; Sponsor: JP Brent Meyers

County Attorney George Spence read the proposed resolution in its entirety.

JP Meyers made motion to adopt, seconded by JP J. Harrison.

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

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

Resolution duly adopted and assigned **No. R-2016-20**.

OTHER BUSINESS:

County Attorney George Spence stated that Tom Sissom of the Northwest-Arkansas Democrat Gazette is concerned that, in addition to the interim Sheriff applications and letters being sent out by the County Clerk's office, any material being received by individual JPs on this matter are also public record. George Spence stated that any documents received by JPs via letter, email or fax need to be forwarded to the County Clerk's office for distribution to all JPs, the public, and the media.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Judge Clinard stated that there is a special Committee of the Whole meeting scheduled for April 25, 2016 at 6:00 p.m. He said that applications for the interim Sheriff position are due in by April 22, 2016 at noon.

JP Adams asked about the format of the Committee of the Whole meeting on April 25, 2016 to interview the interim Sheriff candidates.

County Attorney George Spence stated that it is a Committee of the Whole meeting so the format would be up to the Committee of the Whole chair.

Committee of the Whole chair JP Moore said that he would discuss this with George Spence prior to the meeting.

JP Jones requested that they interview one candidate at a time without the others present so they cannot hear the questions being asked.

JP Leadabrand asked if any of the potential applicants here tonight could stand up and introduce themselves. He also asked if there is anything wrong with meeting with the applicants ahead of time.

George Spence stated that they are free to do so, as long as they do not meet with more than one JP at a time.

Major Lynn Hahn with the Sheriff's Office introduced himself and expressed his intention to apply for interim Sheriff.

JP Moehring asked if the format will be known before the meeting.

JP Moore stated that he will get with County Attorney George Spence to come up with a format and it will be sent out to the Justices and the media.

ADJOURNMENT:

After motion and second, meeting adjourned at 5:44 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Tena O'Brien
County Clerk

Prepared by: Stefanie Laputz