

Garland County, Arkansas
Finance Committee Meeting
Minutes

February 5, 2018

Members Present: Chairman McKee, Vice Chairman Horner, Justice Mahoney, Griffin, Owen, and Raney

Members Absent: Justice Anderson

Also Present: Citizens, Elected Officials, Staff, and Media

Chairman McKee called the Finance meeting to order and introduced the first item of business: the consideration of a resolution authorizing the County Judge to purchase goods or services exempt from soliciting bids as stated in Arkansas Code Annotated § 14-22-106. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Griffin, seconded by Justice Owen. With no further discussion, the motion was approved without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced the consideration of a resolution certifying the local government endorsement of Morfe Windows, LLC to participate in the Tax Back Program. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Mahoney, seconded by Justice Horner. Gary Troutman, president and CEO of the Hot Springs Metro Partnership, stated that Morfe Windows, LLC had to meet several requirements to qualify for the Tax Back Program. Mr. Troutman stated that Morfe Windows plans to create 123 new jobs above the state average, and invest \$3.7 million dollars in facilities and equipment at the Mountain Pine site. He also stated that sales tax is not rebated until two years later, and if the company does not create the jobs, and make the investments, they do not receive the incentive. With no further discussion, the motion was approved without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced the consideration of a resolution certifying the local government endorsement of Timber Automation, LLC to participate in the Tax Back Program. Mr. Troutman stated that the same criteria that applied Morfe Windows apply to Timber Automation. Timber Automation plans to create 44 new jobs above the state average, and invest \$785,000.00 in facilities and equipment. Justice Owen stated that this property is located near the airport. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Griffin, seconded by Justice Owen. With no further discussion, the motion was approved without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced the consideration of an ordinance to amend the 2018 Appropriation Ordinance O-18-04 and to establish the Detention Facility Reserve Fund, County Jail Budget. Comptroller Ashmore stated that this ordinance would establish the new fund. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Mahoney, seconded by Justice Owen. With no further discussion, the motion was approved without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced the consideration of an ordinance to amend the 2018 Budget Ordinance O-17-55, to appropriate funds, and anticipate revenue in the Special Projects Budget, Ouachita Memorial Hospital Sale Fund to be used for investment cost. Treasurer Tim Stockdale discussed that the investment is through Edward D. Jones and Company, who cannot hold the funds. The bank that holds

the funds charges a fee based on the amount of money that is invested. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Griffin, seconded by Justice Mahoney. With no further discussion, the motion was approved without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced the consideration of an ordinance to amend the 2018 Budget Ordinance O-17-55, to appropriate funds, and anticipate revenue in the Federal Forest Reserve Program budget, Federal Forest Reserve Program Title III Fund to be used for a countywide Firewise Community Plan and other authorized uses. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Mahoney, seconded by Justice Owen. Judge Davis stated that the money would be used to reimburse the fire departments that have worked fires on federal forest property and the fire departments that are Firewise qualified. The funds will also be used to create a countywide fire continuity plan. With no further discussion, the motion was approved without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced the consideration of an ordinance to amend the 2018 Budget Ordinance O-17-55, to appropriate funds, and anticipate revenue in the Grant-in-Aid Budget, Morfe Windows, LLC Community Block Grant Fund to be used for equipment acquisition. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Griffin, seconded by Justice Mahoney. With no further discussion, the motion was approved without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced the consideration of an ordinance to amend the 2018 Budget Ordinance O-17-55, to appropriate funds in the Animal Control budget, General Fund to be used to equip the animal control truck the county purchased, with lights, insurance, and a slide-in animal control unit. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Owen, seconded by Justice Horner. With no further discussion, the motion was approved without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced the consideration of an ordinance to amend the 2018 Budget Ordinance O-17-55, to appropriate funds, and anticipate revenue in the Animal Control budget, Animal Control Fund, to be used for a spay and neuter program. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Griffin, seconded by Justice Mahoney. Judge Davis stated that the Public Health, Welfare, and Safety Committee would review the program and make a determination on the voucher form, the amount of the voucher, and the program process. Justice Raney stated that he had talked with several veterinarians, and they do not intend to change their prices. With no further discussion, the motion was approved without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced the consideration of an ordinance to amend the 2018 Budget Ordinance O-17-55, to appropriate funds, and anticipate revenue in the Special Projects budget, Ouachita Memorial Hospital Sale Fund to be used to pay the county's portion of the District Court's unfunded retirement in Arkansas Public Employees Retirement System (APERS). A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Mahoney, seconded by Justice Horner. Justice Owen stated that ordinance needs additional details to explain why the county is paying this amount to APERS. With no further discussion, the motion was approved without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced Mr. Gary Troutman, president and CEO of the Hot Springs Metro Partnership, requested the February distribution of \$6,250.00. Mr. Troutman discussed several current projects. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Raney, seconded by Justice Owen. With no further discussion, the motion was approved without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced Mr. James Montgomery with B&F Engineering, to report on the "Pave it Forward" Program. Mr. Montgomery discussed projects that are currently under construction.

Chairman McKee introduced the consideration of a USDA rate schedule to reimburse fire departments for fires worked on Federal Forest property. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Mahoney to adopt the new USDA rate schedule, seconded by Justice Griffin. With no further discussion, the motion was approved without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced the analysis of the sales tax collections in the General Fund and the Solid Waste Fund.

Adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Lanie Martin", with a stylized flourish extending to the right.

Lanie Martin