

**FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING
GARLAND COUNTY COURTHOUSE
COUNTY COURTROOM 200
FEBRUARY 7, 2022, AT 5:30 PM.
MINUTES**

Members: Chairman McKee, Vice-Chairman Braziel, Justice Horner, Anderson, and Owen.

Members Absent: Justice Hunter

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

Chairman McKee called the meeting to order and presented the invocation.

Chairman McKee introduced a resolution authorizing Garland County and all departments and subdivisions to purchase goods or services exempt from soliciting bids as authorized by Arkansas Code Annotated §14-22-106. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Raney, seconded by Justice Braziel. Chairman McKee asked for questions or discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced a resolution authorizing Division II Juvenile Judge to apply for an FY 2022 Arkansas Administrative Office of the Courts Grant for \$9,125.00. No local match is required. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Anderson, seconded by Justice Owen. Chairman McKee asked for questions or discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced an ordinance to authorize and approve a contract for probation services at Garland County District Court pursuant to Arkansas Code Annotated 16-17-127. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Raney, seconded by Justice Braziel. Chairman McKee asked for questions or discussion, and Judge Mahoney indicated the service was outsourced. He explained there is a new provider, which the County and the City of Hot Springs both had to agree on record. Justice Owen pointed out a typo on the section number that needs to be corrected, and it was noted. With nothing further, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced an ordinance to establish a County General Sub-Fund to be called the American Rescue Plan Act Revenue Replacement Fund. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Anderson, seconded by Justice Braziel. Judge Mahoney explained that we were instructed to establish this fund for the \$10 million that can be used for general services. Chairman McKee asked for questions or discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced an ordinance to establish a County Library Sub-Fund and amend the 2022 county budget ordinance O-21-45; anticipate revenue, appropriate, and transfer funds in the County Library Budget.

- a. The County Librarian would like to establish a County Library Sub-Fund.
- b. The County Librarian deposited \$340,040.00 with the County Treasurer for Federal Coronavirus Relief funds from the State of Arkansas and would like the County Library Fund anticipated revenues increased by this amount.
- c. The County Librarian requests an appropriation and transfer from the County Library Fund to the County Library Budget of \$3,824,468.64 to be transferred to the County Library Sub-Fund.
- d. The County Librarian deposited \$81,121.19 with the County Treasurer in the County Library American Rescue Plan (ARP) Fund and would like to anticipate revenues and appropriate and transfer these funds to the County Library Budget.

A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Raney, seconded by Justice Owen. Adam Webb, the County Librarian, explained this fund was to move all the revenues not produced by the millage. There was some

discussion. Chairman McKee asked for further questions or discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced an ordinance to amend Ordinance O-21-28; to correct a scrivener's error. In sections 1 and 9, the numbers were transposed. \$2,924.32 was entered as \$2,942.32 in error. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Braziel, seconded by Justice Anderson. Chairman McKee asked for questions or discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced an ordinance to amend the 2022 Budget Ordinance O-21-45; to anticipate revenues, appropriate, and transfer funds in various budgets:

- e. The County Judge requests an appropriation of \$10,000.00 in the County General Fund, General Services Budget to pay a service to process freedom of information (FOIA) requests.
- f. The County Judge requests an appropriation of \$198,450.00 in the Solid Waste Fund, Solid Waste Budget to pay a 7% increase for contracted door-to-door collections due to the consumer price index increase over the past 12 months by the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.
- g. The County Judge deposited \$5,487.93 in the Solid Waste Fund and would like it appropriated in the Solid Waste Budget for overtime.
- h. The County Judge requests an appropriation and transfer of \$8,388.19 from the County General Fund, Transfer Out Budget to the American Rescue Plan (ARP) Fund. Ordinance O-21-38 allocated \$59,812.00 for administrative cost when the actual cost of the premium pay was \$514,238.19, and the administrative cost allowed is 10% of the actual cost.
- i. The Sheriff requests to carry over \$37,512.00 in anticipated revenues and appropriations in the Detention Facility Fund, County Jail Budget to pay for kitchen equipment ordered in 2021 due to the supply chain shortage was not available until 2022.
- j. The Public Defender requests to carry over \$1,493.07 in anticipated revenues and appropriations in the Public Defender's Fund, Public Defender's Budget to pay for a conference table, and a chair ordered in 2021 due to the supply chain shortage was not available until 2022.
- k. The Sheriff requests a reimbursement to County General for \$18,222.00 for an overpayment on the local match to the Selective Traffic Enforcement Program (STEP) Grant Fund, Sheriff's Budget distribution on Ordinance O-21-9.
- l. The Sheriff was awarded a 2021 Patrick Leahy Bulletproof Vest Partnership Grant from the Bureau of Justice Assistance for \$20,800.00. This grant is reimbursable and requires a 50% match. The local match of \$10,400.00 will need to be appropriated and transferred in the County General Fund, Transfer Out Budget. A transfer of \$10,400.00 will need to be appropriated and transferred from the Ouachita Memorial Hospital (OMH) Sale Fund until reimbursements are received. Resolution R-21-13 was approved on June 14, 2021.

Judge Mahoney indicated that the \$10,000 was to pay for a service to process FOIA requests. Attorney Howard said that in 2021 the County processed 154 requests with over 20,000 pages of information. In 2020 there were 105 requested with over 2,000 pages of information. One of the 2021 requests included the entire voter registration file, and this year his office has responded to 26 requests in just 45 days of the new year. Judge Mahoney spoke about the increase in the hauler cost. Comptroller Ashmore explained the ARP transfer and the transfer due to the supply chain. Undersheriff Lawrance explained the grants and the need to move the kitchen equipment into the 2022 budget. A motion for a do pass was made by

Justice Braziel, seconded by Justice Raney. Chairman McKee asked for other questions or discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced a transfer in the County Road Fund, County Road Budget of \$1,608.24 from Bridges and Steel line item to Machinery and Equipment line item to pay for a new camera system in the 2021 budget.

Transfer Out	Transfer in	Amount
2000.0200.2031	2000.0200.4004	\$1,608.24

A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Anderson, seconded by Justice Braziel. Chairman McKee asked for questions or discussion, and Judge Mahoney explained the need for the transfer. With nothing further, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced a transfer in the County General Fund, Prosecuting Attorney's Budget of \$2,728.41 to the Machinery and Equipment line item with \$1,329.09 from the Travel line item and \$1,399.32 from the Meals and Lodging line item to pay for a new radio in the 2021 budget.

Transfer Out	Transfer in	Amount
1000.0416.3030	1000.0416.4004	\$ 844.13
1000.0416.3094	1000.0416.4004	<u>1,884.28</u>
Total		\$2,728.41

A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Braziel, seconded by Justice Raney. Chairman McKee asked for questions or discussion, with none, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced Gary Troutman, President of the Hot Springs Metro Partnership. Mr. Troutman gave his report on the economic development in the County. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Anderson, seconded by Justice Horner. Chairman McKee asked for questions or discussion, with none, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman McKee asked the Justices to review the positions changes, overtime, sales tax, Oaklawn, and grant reports. There was some discussion on overtime; then the meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan Ashmore, CPA
Garland County Comptroller