

**GARLAND COUNTY  
FINANCE COMMITTEE MEETING  
THE MAHONEY BUILDING  
210 WOODBINE STREET  
AUGUST 7, 2023, AT 5:30 PM  
Minutes**

Members Present: Chairman Braziel, Vice-Chairwoman Dixon, Justices McGrew, Anderson, Owen, Hunter, and Raney

Member absent: none

Also present: citizens, elected officials, staff, and media.

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

Chairman Braziel introduced a resolution authorizing the Garland County Prosecuting Attorney to apply for a fiscal year 2023-2024 Victims of Crime Act, Victims Assistance (VOCA) Grant totaling \$202,237.63. A motion for do pass was made by Justice Dixon, seconded by Justice Anderson. Chairman Braziel asked for discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman Braziel introduced a resolution authorizing the Garland County Sheriff to apply for a fiscal year 2023 Office of Justice Programs, Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) for \$26,081.00. A motion for do pass was made by Justice Anderson, seconded by Justice Owen. Chairman Braziel asked for discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman Braziel introduced a resolution authorizing the Garland County Circuit Judge Division I to apply for a Peer Recovery Specialist position through the Department of Human Services for \$50,000.00. A motion for do pass was made by Justice Anderson, seconded by Justice Hunter. Chairman Braziel asked for discussion, and Justice Raney asked for a description of the position, and Judge Ohm explained that the position would be like a case manager for the Drug Court. He also indicated that this position ends once the grant expires, and no match is required. Chairman Braziel asked for further discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman Braziel introduced a resolution authorizing the Garland County Circuit Judge Division I to apply for an Opioid Specialist position grant provided by the opioid settlement. A motion for do pass was made by Justice Anderson, seconded by Justice Owen. Chairman Braziel asked for discussion, and Justice Owen asked Judge Ohm to explain the position. Judge Ohm explained that the Attorney General's Office is expected to receive \$1.37 million of opioid funds. At the judge's conference, they invited the judges to apply for their drug

courts. He indicated it is not a matching grant and will only last four years since Attorney General Griffin's term will end in four years. Judge Ohm said he is asking for the entire four years, and the employee will know that the position ends when the grant ends. Chairman Braziel asked for further discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman Braziel introduced an ordinance to amend the 2023 Garland County Budget Ordinance O-22-57 to anticipate revenue, appropriate, and transfer funds in various budgets.

- a. The County Judge deposited \$7,387.88 with the County Treasurer in the County General Fund to be appropriated in the Prosecuting Attorney's Budget for insurance proceeds for a totaled vehicle.

Judge Mahoney explained that this is a hail-damaged vehicle used by the Drug Task Force that was totaled and the County purchased back from the insurance. Justice Dixon made A motion for a do pass, seconded by Justice McGrew. Chairman Braziel asked for discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

- b. The County Judge deposited \$19,621.00 with the County Treasurer in the Solid Waste Fund to be appropriated in the Solid Waste Budget for insurance proceeds of \$16,500.00 for a totaled vehicle and a use tax refund of \$3,121.00.

Judge Mahoney explained that this vehicle caught on fire and was a total loss, and the County retained the vehicle for parts. A motion was made for a do pass by Justice Raney, seconded by Justice Hunter. Chairman Braziel asked for discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

- c. The County Judge requests an appropriation of an additional \$30,000.00 in the Solid Waste Fund to be appropriated in the Solid Waste Budget to be used to replace the totaled vehicle noted above.

Judge Mahoney explained that he needed to replace the vehicle above for the Landfill. A motion for do pass was made by Justice Raney, seconded by Justice Dixon. Chairman Braziel asked for discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

- d. The County Judge requests an appropriation of \$80,000.00 in the Solid Waste Fund to the Solid Waste Budget be applied to the four Day Cabs that were budgeted at \$113,900.00 each and should have been \$133,900.00 each.

Judge Mahoney explained that the County ordered four Day-Cab trucks, which have still not been received. A motion for do pass was made by Justice Raney, seconded by Justice Anderson. Chairman Braziel asked for discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

- e. The County Judge requests an appropriation of \$9,801.65 in the Circuit Court Cost Fund to the Court Cost Budget to pay for a metal detector in the Mahony Building.

A motion for do pass was made by Justice Dixon, seconded by Justice Anderson. Chairman Braziel asked for discussion, and Judge Mahoney explained that we purchased two for the Circuit Court conducting court in the Mahoney Building. Chairman Braziel asked for further discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

- f. The County Judge requests an appropriation of \$40,000.00 in the County Road Fund to the County Road Budget for the roadside litter pickup campaign.

A motion for do pass was made by Justice Anderson, seconded by Justice Dixon. Chairman Braziel asked for discussion, and Judge Mahoney explained that this was for a roadside pickup contract. He indicated that the pickup would be three times a year for \$112,500. He said he is considering doing this each year in September, January, and April. Chairman Braziel asked for further discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

- g. The County Judge requests an appropriation and transfer of \$30,000.00 in the County Road Fund to the County Road Budget from the salaries part-time line item to the overtime line item.

Judge Mahoney explained that we could not hire part-time this year, which has created additional overtime. A motion for do pass was made by Justice Dixon, seconded by Justice Raney. Chairman Braziel asked for further discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

- h. The County Judge requests to anticipate under-projected revenues of \$825,000.00, with \$311,807.78 in interest and \$513,192.22 in Treasurer's Commissions. He would also like to appropriate and transfer \$725,000.00 in the County General Fund to the Transfers Out Budget to be transferred to the General Reserve Capital Improvement Fund.

Judge Mahoney explained that we have made several investments this year that have increased our interest revenue above the projected amount. Comptroller Ashmore explained the need for the transfer to the General Reserve Capital Improvement fund. She explained that the \$175,000.00 was to provide the revenues to cover the purchase of the Sheriff's vehicles approved in the prior month, and the additional \$550,000.00 was to cover the cost of purchasing a senior citizen building and renovation. A motion for do pass was made by Justice Raney, seconded by Justice Anderson. Chairman Braziel asked for further discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

- i. The County Judge requests to project revenues of \$550,000.00 and appropriate \$500,000.00 of these funds in the General Reserve Capital Improvement Fund to the Special Projects Budget to pay for the County's share of purchasing and renovating a building to be used for our senior citizens.

Judge Mahoney explained that the County has not had a senior citizens center in several years. He described the plan to get a new senior citizen center in operation. Justice Owen asked where it was located, and Judge Mahoney said he was reluctant to say due to the concern of losing the opportunity. There was some discussion on the County sharing the cost with the City of Hot Springs. There was a discussion about the agencies operating it and paying for the operations. Judge Mahoney said the County will not pay for the operations, only a portion of the purchase of the building and maintaining the building. A motion for do pass was made by Justice Dixon, seconded by Justice Anderson. Several citizens spoke about the senior citizens center: Mr. Reggie Cowen, Ms. Sharron Pratt, and Ms. Marsha Aughenbaugh. Justice Myers asked if the American Rescue Plan (ARP) funds could be used for this purpose, and Judge Mahoney explained that those remaining undesignated funds being considered for an Arkansas Wireless Information Network (AWIN) Bi-Directional Amplifier (BDA) system for the public schools for communications. Chairman Braziel asked for further discussion,

and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

1. Consideration of an ordinance to amend the 2023 Garland County Budget Ordinance O-22-57; to appropriate funds in various budgets.
  - a. The County Judge requests an appropriation of \$10,000.00 in the County General Fund to be appropriated in various budgets for overtime and benefits.
  - b. The County Judge requests an appropriation of \$1,250.00 in the Recorder's Cost Fund to be appropriated in the Circuit Clerk's budget for overtime and benefits.
  - c. The County Judge requests an appropriation of \$1,250.00 in the County Library Fund to be appropriated in the Library budget for overtime and benefits.
  - d. The County Judge requests an appropriation of \$1,250.00 in the Emergency 911 Fund to be appropriated in the Nine One One budget for overtime and benefits.
  - e. The County Judge requests an appropriation of \$1,250.00 in the Solid Waste Cedar Glades Park Fund to be appropriated in the Cedar Glades Park budget for overtime and benefits.

Judge Mahoney explained that these are all the budgets with employees who did not have overtime. Justice Owen asked if the Library's overtime will come from their revenues and if the Emergency 911 funds overtime will come from their revenues. Judge Mahoney explained that the Library would pay for theirs, but the County General fund supplements the Emergency 911 Fund. A motion for do pass was made by Justice Owen, seconded by Justice Raney. Chairman Braziel asked for discussion, and with none, the motion was passed without opposition.

2. Consideration of an ordinance to amend the 2023 Garland County Budget Ordinance O-22-57 to anticipate revenues and appropriate professional development recognition payments in the Assessor's Budget. A motion for do pass was made by Justice Anderson, seconded by Justice Raney. Assessor Shannon Sharp explained that the state legislators passed a law in the session for this to be paid through the County and funded by the State of Arkansas. Chairman Braziel asked for further discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.
3. Consideration of transfer of \$4,100.00 from the small equipment line to the machinery and equipment line item in the Circuit Court Division III Cost Fund, Circuit Court Division III Budget to purchase a copier.

Transfer From	Transfer To	Amount
3409.0403.2002	3409.0403.4004	\$4,100.00

A motion was made by Justice Anderson, seconded by Justice Hunter. Chairman Braziel asked for further discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

4. Consideration of a transfer of \$2,621.00 from the juror and witness line item to the machinery and equipment line item in the County General Fund, Circuit Clerk's Budget, to buy an existing multifunction copier in the Circuit Clerk's office.

Transfer From	Transfer To	Amount
1000.0102.3092	1000.0102.4004	\$2,621.00

A motion was made by Justice Dixon, seconded by Justice McGrew. Chairman Braziel asked

for further discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

5. Other Business

- a. Hot Springs Metro Partnership (HSMP) Report- Gary Troutman, President of HSMP

Mr. Troutman gave his report on the month's events. A motion for do pass was made by Justice Anderson, seconded by Justice Raney. Chairman Braziel asked for further discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman Braziel asked the committee to review the reports.

- b. Position and Salary Adjustments
- c. Overtime Report
- d. Update on Sales Tax collections in the General Fund & the Solid Waste Fund.
- e. Oaklawn Revenue report

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully Submitted,



Susan Ashmore, CPA  
Garland County Comptroller