

Garland County, Arkansas  
Special Finance and Human Resources Committee  
Minutes  
December 6, 2021

Members: Chairman McKee, Chairman Anderson, Justices Braziel, Horner, Owen, Hunter, Reagan, Dixon, and Raney

Members Absent: Faulkner,  
Also Present: Citizens, Elected Officials, Staff, and Media

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

Michelle Ratcliff with the Hot Springs Metro Partnership presented the monthly report. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Horner, seconded by Chairman Anderson. Chairman McKee asked for questions or discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced an ordinance to repeal the Garland County Personnel Policy and adopt a new policy. A motion for a do pass was made by Chairman Anderson, seconded by Justice Dixon. Chairman McKee asked for questions or discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition. Chairman McKee thanks our County Attorney and Human Resources Director for their hard work on this policy.

Chairman McKee introduced a resolution supporting the establishment of an income tax credit for full-time law enforcement officers. A motion for a do pass was made by Chairman Anderson, seconded by Justice Raney. Chairman McKee asked for questions or discussion, and Judge Mahoney said this will be a tax credit. There was some discussion. With nothing further, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced a resolution authorizing the Sheriff to apply for an FY 2022 Project Safe Neighborhood (PSN) Grant for \$91,000.00. No match required. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Dixon 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 the Division II Circuit Judge to apply for a 2022 Juvenile Accountability Court Fund Grant for \$3,575.20. No match required. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Owen, seconded by Chairman Anderson. Chairman McKee asked for questions or discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced an ordinance to amend the 2021 Budget Ordinance O-20-35, and appropriate \$48,126.34 in the County Library Fund, County Library Budget to pay premium pay to essential County Library employees. The Library Board of Trustees has approved this appropriation and payment. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Owen, seconded by Justice Hunter. Chairman McKee asked for questions or discussion, and Librarian Webb explained that this is to mirror the premium payment the county paid from the American Rescue Plan. With nothing further, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced an ordinance to amend the 2021 Budget Ordinance O-20-35; to appropriate and transfer funds in various budgets.

- a. The Prosecuting Attorney requests an appropriation transfer of \$4,927.36 from the personal services Retirement Matching line item to Special Legal line item in the Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) Fund, Prosecuting Attorney Budget to pay November and December costs.
- b. The Prosecuting Attorney requests an appropriation transfer of \$60.00 from the personal services Retirement Matching line item to Other Fringe Benefits line item in the Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) Fund, Prosecuting Attorney Budget to pay longevity pay.
- c. The Prosecuting Attorney requests an appropriation and transfer of \$15,625.17 from the County General Fund, Transfer Out Budget to the Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) Fund, Prosecuting Attorney Budget to pay \$5,625.17 of the 2020/2021 local match and \$10,000.00 of the 2021/2022 local match on the grant that was awarded November 4, 2021.

A motion for a do pass was made by Chairman Anderson, seconded by Justice Raney. Chairman McKee asked for questions or discussion; Judge Mahoney explained that the Prosecutor is waiting for reimbursement, but the award has been granted. With nothing further, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced an ordinance to amend the 2021 Budget Ordinance O-20-35; to anticipate revenue, appropriate and transfer funds in various budgets.

- a. The County Judge requests an appropriation of \$5,300.00 in the American Rescue Plan (ARP), County Judges Budget to pay for a clean air system installed on the first floor and in the basement of the Garland County Courthouse at 501 Ouachita Avenue.
- b. The County Judge requests an appropriation of \$10,000.00 in the County General Fund, with \$5,000.00 posted to the District Court Building Budget and \$5,000.00 posted to the Juvenile Court Building to pay for repairs to the sprinkler system at 607 Ouachita Avenue.
- c. The Sheriff requests an appropriation of \$11,530.03 in the County General Fund, Sheriff's Budget to pay for fleet liability insurance costs.
- d. The Sheriff deposited \$5,031.75 with the County Treasurer from the National School Lunch Program and would like it appropriated in the General Fund, Juvenile Detention Budget.

A motion for a do pass was made by Chairman Anderson, seconded by Justice Braziel. Chairman McKee asked for questions or discussion; Judge Mahoney explained the need for the clear air system and the leak at District Court. With nothing further, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced an ordinance to amend the 2021 Budget Ordinance O-20-35; to anticipate revenues, appropriate, and transfer funds in various budgets:

- a. The County Judge requests an appropriation transfer of \$993.76 in the General Fund, Election Commission Budget to various General Fund budgets to offset under appropriated amounts in personal services.
- b. The County Treasurer requests an appropriation transfer of \$939.86 in the Treasurer's Automation Fund to offset under appropriated amounts in personal services in the Treasurer's Budget.
- c. The Tax Collector requests an appropriation transfer of \$4,414.43 in the Collector's Automation Fund to offset under appropriated amounts in personal services in the Tax Collector's Budget.
- d. The County Clerk requests an appropriation transfer of \$466.44 in the County Clerk's Cost Fund to offset under appropriated amounts in personal services in the County Clerk's Budget.
- e. The Circuit Clerk requests an appropriation transfer of \$103.32 in the Recorder Cost Fund to offset under appropriated amounts in personal services in the Circuit Clerk's Budget.
- f. The County Librarian requests an appropriation transfer of \$191.99 in the County Library Fund to offset under appropriated amounts in personal services in the County Library's Budget.
- g. The County Judge requests an appropriation transfer of \$12,880.89 in the Solid Waste Fund to offset under appropriated amounts in personal services of \$7,880.89 and to add \$5,000.00 to the overtime line item in the Solid Waste Budget.
- h. The County Judge requests an appropriation transfer of \$132.69 in the Solid Waste Cedar Glades Park Fund to offset under appropriated amounts in personal services in the Cedar Glades Park Budget.

A motion for do pass was made by Justice Owen, seconded by Justice Braziel. Chairman McKee asked for questions or discussion; Comptroller Ashmore explained the need to clean up these line items. With nothing further, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced an ordinance to approve the 2022 Budget, which includes a \$1,200 per full-time employee Cost of Living Adjustment (COLA), except for the Quorum Court and County Library. The Quorum Court COLA is at 3%, and the County Library Board of Trustees sets the COLA for the Library employees. A motion for a do pass was made by Justice Raney, seconded by Chairman Anderson. Chairman McKee asked for questions or discussion, and with none, the motion passed without opposition.

Chairman McKee introduced a transfer in the Public Defenders Fund, Public Defender's Budget of \$2,628.45 from Capital Outlay to IT Hardware.

| Transfer Out   | Transfer in    | Amount     |
|----------------|----------------|------------|
| 3024.0417.4004 | 3024.0417.2015 | \$2,628.45 |

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

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

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Susan Ashmore, CPA". The signature is written in a cursive style.

Susan Ashmore, CPA  
Garland County Comptroller