

**SEBASTIAN COUNTY QUORUM COURT MEETING
JULY 15, 2014 @ 7:00 P.M.
FORT SMITHY COURTHOUSE, ROOM 204
FORT SMITH, ARKANSAS**

Sebastian County Judge David Hudson called the meeting to order at 7:02 p.m., and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Johnny Hobbs led the Invocation.

Sharon Brooks, County Clerk, called the roll, with all 13 members present.

Donald Carter	Bob Schwartz	Shawn Looper	Jim Medley
Rhonda Royal	Ray Stewart	Tony Crockett	
Dickie Robertson	Johnny Hobbs	John Spradlin	
Linda Murry	Phil Hicks	Danny Aldridge	

First Item: Public Comments

Sheriff Bill Hollenbeck stated recently the Sheriff's Department successfully completed a National Certification through the National Center for Missing and Exploited Children. This certification was an intensive 3 day course in Washington D.C. for the Sheriff and the Sworn Personnel were required to take an online course. "We are second in the nation to receive this certification and the first Law Enforcement Agency in State of Arkansas."

National Night Out will be held on August 05, 2014 in Barling at the City Hall; all citizens are encouraged to attend and meet their Public Safety Professionals.

The 2014 Sheriff's Citizens Academy will be in September, Quorum Court members are invited, along with other citizens who are interested.

Next Item: Approval of Minutes

Bob Schwartz made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 17, 2014 Quorum Court Meeting as written. Rhonda Royal seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

Next Item: The Executive Report of the County Judge

I. The Aquatics Facility Project Continues to Move Forward Towards Opening Memorial Day, 2015.

Facility construction is in progress with project enhancements under evaluation from pricing additional services from existing bids and request for new bids for enhanced facility features. Favorable bids made possible restoration of facility features that were scaled back or reduced in the initial bid.

Evaluation of Aquatics Facility management companies for facility operations is in process during the month of July. Update of the facility operational budget and business

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plan, published in January 2010, is in process based upon the final design of the facility for staffing and operational projected costs and revenues.

Joint City/County review of Facility operations and budgets will be coordinated later this year as the 2015 Budget is developed.

II. 2015 Budget

Planning for the 2015 Budget has been initiated.

Elected Officials have been notified that personnel proposals are due by July 31, 2014.

Budgets will be requested for submittal August 25, 2014.

Preliminary work has been initiated to evaluate 2015 revenues.

Extensive revenue and budget evaluation, including cash flow analysis, completed in April of 2013, is supporting 2015 Budget planning.

A preliminary analysis of 2015 Budget Issues is in development. These issues include:

1. Implementing 10 year renewal of the County sales tax, August 1, 2014, to July 31, 2024.
 - Key changes:
 - Reducing capital account funding from 25% to 11% or \$867,000 to \$267,000 per year.
 - Increasing jail allocation by 10.5% from 44% to 54.5% or \$357,000 yearly.
 - Allocate 2% for EMS.
 - Allocate 1% for parks.
 - Increase rural fire allocation from 4.5% to 5%.
2. Implementing the Aquatics Facility construction project and operation of the Aquatics Facility in 2015.
3. Operation of the jail in compliance with the US Justice Department guidelines and investigation initiated in 2005. Eleven (11) new Adult Detention Center deputies for the jail July 1, 2014 help address US Justice Department staffing concerns.
4. Operation of the Sebastian County golf course to generate revenues closer to operating expenses.
5. Operating expanded Sebastian County EMS services with two full-time crews and payment of overtime to cover 11 PM – 7 AM for the second crew. Evaluation of an

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increase of the \$18 ambulance fee by election to address increases in EMS operations of approximately \$600,000 annually from the County General Fund.

6. Sebastian County pay policies and salary ranges.
7. Implementation in 2015 of the 5 year reappraisal program [2011-2015]. Notices to be mailed in July. 2015 reappraisal taxes to be collected in 2016.
8. Evaluation of midyear budget review policies to consider budget review and reporting midyear and to consider limiting personnel proposals to the annual budget cycle.

Next Item: An Appropriation Ordinance Appropriating Funds and Authorizing the Lease Purchase of Golf Carts; and for Other Purposes. (Third Reading)

The Appropriation Ordinance was read by the County Clerk, Sharon Brooks.

Bob Schwartz made a motion to adopt the Ordinance. Danny Aldridge seconded the motion.

Judge Hudson asked if there is any discussion.

Shawn Looper stated "I would like to include one thing in the minutes. The June 2013 Cart Rentals were 2,136, the June 2014 Cart Rentals were 1,607. That's down 529 Cart Rentals since last year, that's approximately 18 Cart Rentals a day down versus last year, from 2013 to 2014. Let's not go all the way back to 2007, which was discussed last month. From 2007 to 2013 we dropped 30%, from 2013 to 2014 one month June versus June we dropped 529 Cart Rentals. So, I would like to include that in the minutes as we purchase these brand new 70 Golf Carts that we must have."

Bob Schwartz stated that the purpose for the purchase is to improve business.

Sharon Brooks called the roll.

Appropriation Ordinance 2014-8 passed with 7 Yes Votes to 6 No Votes (Linda Murry, Johnny Hobbs, Phil Hicks, Shawn Looper, Tony Crocket and John Spradlin).

Judge Hudson stated that the Third Reading of the Appropriation passes and will proceed with implementation of that project. "That will allow us to skip Item B on the Agenda."

Next Item: Midyear Budget Review

Kathy Lawrence stated that the Cash Flow Analysis 2014 General Fund of 1/1/14 is \$7,323,169.00.

Cash Flow Analysis 2014 Road Fund as of 1/1/14 is \$4,927,081.00

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The General Fund and Road Fund cash flow balances are sufficient to manage these funds in 2014. Unobligated funds are in addition to the required cash flow balances.

In evaluating the budget midyear 2014, there are possible shortages in:

- Utilities
- Fleet and Liability Insurance.

It is recommended that \$45,000 be earmarked from the unobligated balance to cover anticipated year end appropriations for possible shortages.

The County Sales Tax collected year-to-date is \$18,504 less than anticipated. At the same time in 2013, sales tax was \$8,362 less than anticipated.

Sales tax collections exceeded estimated revenues for the balance of 2013 and will be closely monitored for the balance of 2014 to see if the shortfall is made up as it was in 2013.

The 2014 estimated sales tax is based upon the actual received by the County in 2007.

Reports are attached in the packets distributed to the Quorum Court members.

Next Item: An Appropriation Ordinance Amending Budget Ordinance 2014-4 Budget in Order to Appropriate Additional Funds and Approve Additional Expenditures for County Offices and Departments in the 2014 Budget; and for Other Purposes.

The Appropriation Ordinance was read by Sharon Brooks.

Judge Hudson introduced the new Election Coordinator Suzanne Morgan, to the Quorum Court and stated she is available to answer any questions.

Linda Murry made a motion to approve the Ordinance. Danny Aldridge seconded the motion.

The roll was called by Sharon Brooks.

Appropriation Ordinance 2014-9 passed unanimously.

Last Item: Resolution of the Sebastian County Quorum Court Certifying Local Government Endorsement of River Bend Industries, LLC to Participate in the Tax Back Program, as Authorized by Section 15-4-2706(d) of the Consolidated Incentive Act of 2003.

Shawn Looper made a motion to approve Resolution. Johnny Hobbs seconded the motion.

The motion passed unanimously by Voice Vote.

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Judge Hudson reminded the Quorum Court about the AAC Conference that will be held in Little Rock on August 20-22, 2014.

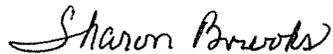
Rhonda Royal asked to have the Quorum Court Members updated on the status of the tablets.

Judge Hudson stated that the briefing will be in the August meeting.

Bob Schwartz made a motion to adjourn the meeting. Linda Murry seconded the motion.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:46 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,



Sharon Brooks, County Clerk



Marcela White, Deputy Clerk