

MADISON COUNTY QUORUM COURT
REGULAR SESSION

FILED

APR 22 2021

TAMITHA S. BLOCKER
COUNTY AND PROBATE CLERK
MADISON COUNTY, ARKANSAS
BY  D.C.

April 19, 2021

6:00 PM

The Madison County Quorum Court met in person and via teleconference on April 19, 2021, in a regular session with nine members present.

Minutes from the previous meetings were approved as written.

The Treasurer's Report was approved as written.

The Expenditure Report was approved as written.

County Clerk Tamitha Blocker reported that the new county website is now live and getting good feedback from the public. The website is located at www.madisoncogov.com.

County Judge Frank Weaver asked Brandi Holt to give an update on the Fun Park Grant. Brandi reported that she had received two quotes for the playground structure and poured rubber surface. She stated that there is an opportunity to save money on both quotes if a performance bond is not required. County Attorney Billy Allred will check to see if a bond is required.

Brandi Holt also gave an update on the Solar Task Force, which met again last month. They have determined the best way forward is through the Arkansas Energy Office who will negotiate a contract with a third-party supplier. Judge Weaver reported talking with three other counties who have either already started the process or have their solar project up and running. All three counties gave positive feedback regarding their solar projects. Brandi stated that she would be sending a memorandum of understanding for participation in the Arkansas Energy Program to Judge Weaver for his approval if the court wished to proceed. Larry Garrett made a motion to move forward, and Pattie Shinn seconded. Motion carried 8-1. JP TW Dotson voted against the motion.

Judge Weaver gave an update on the progress of the rural fire district map. He reported that several county officials and employees attended a meeting in Harrison on April 14 with members of the State Emergency 911 Board, Arkansas GIS officials, and other surrounding counties. The purpose of the meeting was to work on a quick response map, which will be used with next-generation 911 software to dispatch emergency services as quickly as possible. The quick response map will not impact the work currently being done on the rural fire district map. The rural fire district map and legal descriptions should be ready for quorum court approval at the May meeting.

Judge Weaver presented Resolution 2021-2, which affirms Madison County's support of the Second Amendment Right to bear arms. T.W. Dotson made a motion to read Resolution 2021-2, and Luke Dotson seconded the motion. All voted in favor. County Clerk Tamitha Blocker read Resolution 2021-2. Judge Weaver pointed out that paragraph 6 should read "resolution," not ordinance. Larry Garrett made a motion to adopt Resolution 2021-2 as amended. T.W. Dotson seconded the motion. The motion carried 7-2. JP Sherri Cozad and JP Pattie Shinn voted against the motion.

Judge Weaver asked the court to confirm the reappointment of Jeff Watson to the Board of Equalization. Larry Garrett motioned to appoint Jeff Watson to the Board of Equalization, and Jack Hudgins seconded. All voted in favor.

Judge Weaver asked Alice Jackson to speak about a proposed lease agreement between the Paws and Claws Pet Shelter and Madison County for the use of county-owned property where the pet shelter is currently located. Ms. Jackson explained that the pet shelter facility is located on county property, but a formal agreement between the entities has never existed. The lack of a legal agreement prevents the shelter from receiving grant money and donations for needed

repairs and improvements. Judge Weaver stated he would set up a meeting with Ms. Jackson to discuss what is required and provide County Attorney Billy Allred with the details to draw up a lease agreement for approval by the quorum court.

TW Dotson reported on the Quorum Court Association meeting he recently attended. TW said the main topics discussed were redistricting and the recently completed US Census.

Judge Weaver updated the court on a meeting of the subdivision review committee. The committee hopes to address two or three key issues and bring their recommendations to the quorum court as soon as possible.

Judge Weaver began a discussion on possible implementation of additional county regulatory codes and the need to hire a code enforcement officer to enforce county regulations. JP's agreed there was a need to have an enforcement mechanism. Judge Weaver asked the court to think about it and be prepared to decide whether to move forward next month.

Judge Weaver reported he is looking to reopen the courthouse to the public on May 10, depending on the COVID numbers.

With no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Larry Garrett and seconded by Pattie Shinn. All voted in favor.

APPROVED: Frank Weaver
COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST: Janitha Blodgett
COUNTY CLERK

DATED: April 22, 2021