

MADISON COUNTY QUORUM COURT
REGULAR SESSION

APR 14 2022

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IN BOOK 10 PAGE 1-2
TAMITHA BLOCKER COUNTY CLERK
D.C.

March 21, 2022

6:00 PM

The Madison County Quorum Court met on March 21, 2022, in a regular session with eight members present. JP Matt Cleaver was absent from the meeting.

Minutes from the previous meeting were approved as written.

The Treasurer's Report was approved as written.

The Expenditure Report was approved as written.

County Judge Frank Weaver presented Ordinance 2022-5, an ordinance to appropriate American Rescue Plan funds for expenditures approved in the previous two meetings. Pattie Shinn made a motion to place Ordinance No. 2022-5 on its first reading. Wendy Pettz seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, seven members voted in favor of the motion. T.W. Dotson voted against the motion. County Clerk Tamitha Blocker read Ordinance No. 2022-5. After a brief discussion, Pattie Shinn made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-5. Jack Hudgins seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, seven members voted in favor of the motion. T.W. Dotson voted against the motion. Ordinance No. 2022-5 was adopted.

Judge Weaver informed the court that Southbuild needed to know the size (number of beds) for the proposed jail prior to beginning their work session. Judge Weaver asked Madison County Sheriff Rick Evans for his opinion of how many beds would be needed. Sheriff Evans stated that we typically house between 50 and 60 prisoners per month. He also said that if we built a 100-bed jail, it would be full immediately due to the number of people cited out each month that should be put in jail. He felt a 150-bed jail would give a little room for growth. There was a lengthy discussion about the number of beds needed and if we could house state prisoners if we had extra beds. County Clerk Tamitha Blocker, citing numbers she obtained from current jail administrator Lola Mitchell, reported that an average of 57 people per month were booked into jail in the past three months. An average of 36 additional individuals were cited out each month. Justice T.W. Dotson stated he thought we needed prices for both a 100 and 150-bed jail, and others concurred. Judge Weaver said he would talk to SouthBuild about including both in their proposal. Captain Russell Alberts of the Madison County Sheriff's Office explained that jail standards require prisoners to be segregated into several categories: male, female, felons, non-felons, etc. He also explained that due to these standards, a "jail pod" could be shut down with only one inmate in it if that inmate must be segregated from the rest of the prisoners. Prosecuting Attorney Matt Durrett agreed and pointed out that the Washington County Jail has 750 beds; however, only 570 of those beds are currently being utilized due to the segregation of prisoner requirements.

Judge Weaver presented Ordinance No. 2022-6, an appropriation ordinance. Larry Garrett made a motion to place Ordinance No. 2022-6 on its first reading, and Pattie Shinn seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all eight members voted in favor of the motion. County Clerk Tamitha Blocker read Ordinance No. 2022-6. Circuit Clerk Judy Foster explained the need for additional funds to be appropriated from the County Recorder's Automation Fund for extra help in the Circuit Clerk's Office. Pattie Shinn made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-6, and Larry Garrett seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all members voted in favor of the motion. Ordinance No. 2022-6 was adopted.

Judge Weaver presented Ordinance No. 2022-7, an ordinance authorizing the purchase of goods or services from a county government officer for lawn care. Judge Weaver explained bids were advertised for lawn care services for several county properties and the low bid received was from BC Lawn Contractors LLC, owned by Blake Evans, the step-son-in-law of Justice of the Peace Larry Garrett. Pattie Shinn made a motion to place Ordinance No. 2022-7 on its first reading. Wendy Pettz seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, seven members voted in favor of the

motion, and Larry Garrett abstained from voting. County Clerk Tamitha Blocker read Ordinance No. 2022-7. Pattie Shinn made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-7, and Luke Dotson seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, seven members voted in favor of the motion, and Larry Garrett abstained from voting. Pattie Shinn made a motion to suspend the rules and put Ordinance No. 2022-7 on its second reading by title only, and Wendy Pettz seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, seven members voted in favor of the motion, and Larry Garrett abstained from voting. County Clerk Tamitha Blocker read Ordinance No. 2022-7 by title only. Pattie Shinn made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-7, and Luke Dotson seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, seven members voted in favor of the motion, and Larry Garrett abstained from voting. Pattie Shinn made a motion to suspend the rules and place Ordinance No. 2022-7 on its third and final reading by title only, and Luke Dotson seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, seven members voted in favor of the motion, and Larry Garrett abstained from voting. County Clerk Tamitha Blocker read Ordinance No. 2022-7 by title only. Wendy Pettz made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-7, and Jack Hudgins seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, seven members voted in favor of the motion, and Larry Garrett abstained from voting. Ordinance No. 2022-7 was adopted.

Judge Weaver presented Ordinance No. 2022-8, an ordinance authorizing the purchase of goods or services from a county government officer for custodial services. Judge Weaver explained that bids were advertised for custodial services at the courthouse and the only bid received was from James McElhaney, the husband of Madison County Collector DeAnna McElhaney. Larry Garrett made a motion to place Ordinance No. 2022-8 on its first reading, and Pattie Shinn seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all eight members voted in favor of the motion. County Clerk Tamitha Blocker read Ordinance No. 2022-8. Wendy Pettz made a motion to adopt Ordinance No. 2022-8, and Pattie Shinn seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all eight members voted in favor of the motion. Larry Garrett made a motion to suspend the rules and put Ordinance No. 2022-8 on its second reading by title only, and Jack Hudgins seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all eight members voted in favor of the motion. County Clerk Tamitha Blocker read Ordinance No. 2022-8 by title only. Wendy Pettz made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-8, and Larry Garrett seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all eight members voted in favor of the motion. Pattie Shinn made a motion to suspend the rules and place Ordinance No. 2022-8 on its third and final reading by title only, and Larry Garrett seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all eight members voted in favor of the motion. County Clerk Tamitha Blocker read Ordinance No. 2022-8 by title only. Larry Garrett made a motion to adopt Ordinance 2022-8, and Wendy Pettz seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all eight members voted in favor of the motion. Ordinance 2022-8 was adopted.

Judge Weaver presented Resolution No. 2022-1, a resolution declaring Madison County a Pro-Life County. Judge Weaver introduced Madison County resident Connie Burks, who spoke in support of the resolution. After a lengthy discussion, T.W. Dotson made a motion to read Resolution No. 2022-1, and Luke Dotson seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, all eight members voted in favor of the motion. County Clerk Tamitha Blocker read Resolution No. 2022-1. Jack Hudgins made a motion to adopt Resolution No. 2022-1, and Larry Garrett seconded the motion. On a roll call vote, six members voted in favor of the motion. Pattie Shinn and Sherri Cozad voted against the motion. Resolution No. 2022-1 was adopted.

Justice of the Peace Luke Dotson invited Janine Palazzi to address the Quorum Court once again about her non-profit organization, Restoration Ranch in Kingston. She once again explained her organization's mission and read a testimony from a resident. Luke Dotson thanked her for coming again. No action was taken.

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

APPROVED: Frank Mauer
COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST: Tamitha Blocker
COUNTY CLERK

DATED: April 13, 2022