

**FILED**

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COUNTY & PROBATE COURT CLERK

# **QUORUM COURT MINUTES**

**January 12, 2026**

451/459

## QUORUM COURT MINUTES January 12, 2026

Judge Day called the meeting to order at 5:30 pm.

Invocation was led by Pastor Cory Epps with Central Baptist Church.

Pledge of Allegiance was led by Justice Myers.

Roll was called and all were present.

Next order of business was the approval of the minutes of December 15, 2025, meeting. Justice Pasmore made the motion to approve, and Justice Myers seconded the motion. Judge Day took a vote, and it passed unanimously.

### OLD BUSINESS

An **ORDINANCE TO ACCEPT THE ANALYSIS FOR ALTERNATIVE COUNTY GOVERNMENT ORGANIZATION** was read by title only for the second reading after a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only was made by Justice Rogers and seconded by Justice Williams.

An **ORDINANCE CALLING FOR AN ELECTION ON THE QUESTION OF REORGANIZING THE COUNTY GOVERNMENT TO BE MORE EFFICIENT BY CREATING AN ALTERNATIVE FORM OF GOVERNMENT AND CONSOLIDATING THE DUTIES OF TREASURER AND COLLECTOR; AND MATTERS PERTAINING THERETO** was read by title only after a motion to suspend the rules and read by title only was made by Justice Cline and seconded by Justice Tennison.

### NEW BUSINESS

Judge Day stated to Quorum Court that there was a **2025 DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY REVIEW OF CRAIGHEAD COUNTY DETENTION CENTER & JUVENILE DETENTION CENTER** for each one of them to review. Sheriff Boyd came forward and stated that the review of the juvenile detention center showed that they will soon need more space, and he also stated that the

review pointed out that the juvenile staff is still shorthanded. Sheriff Boyd stated that the review board applauded a lot of what good is done at the facility, including the education standpoint and how professional the staff is.

Sheriff Boyd then commented that the same is to be said for the adult side of the Detention Center in being understaffed. He then stated even with the pay being moved up it is still hard to recruit new staff. Sheriff Boyd shared that the biggest things in the review are things we are already aware of such as the facility is aging and old with a constant need of maintenance.

Justice Barnes asked Sheriff Boyd how the extra things wrong with the facility have an impact on the safety of the staff at the Detention Center. Sheriff Boyd replied that it has a great impact on both staff and inmates when there is overcrowding. Justice Myers asked if it is the same as Juvenile. Sheriff Boyd stated that juveniles must be housed in a totally separate part of the facility and even then, the employees that work on the adult side can't work on the juvenile side.

Justice Longmire asked how many vacancies in staff there currently are at the Detention Center. Sheriff Boyd said as of last count there were 12 vacancies in the staffing at the Detention Center.

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Judge Day stated Mr. Hartness with the USS Arkansas was present to speak about raising money to support the organization. Mr. Hartness spoke of the organization and their efforts in raising funds for rack curtains to be displayed on the newly commissioned USS Arkansas. He gave a couple of historical highlights of the previous USS Arkansas ships.

### **PUBLIC COMMENT**

Judge Day asked if there were any Public Comments.

Jarrod Stroud of 1505 Elkhorn Lane Jonesboro approached with concerns about the combining of Treasurer and Collector stating that he has worked in local government for over 20 years and to him it seems like any time there is a

consolidation like this, efficiency goes down. He spoke of there being no results of the efficiency going up in the study for Sebastian County. He stated he hopes that it can be addressed.

Robin Martin of 5005 Lamb Lane, Jonesboro approached speaking of an email between Judge Day and the attorney who did the analysis on behalf of the County. She stated that there is a quote in the email from Sebastian County Judge, Steve Hotz, that was left out of the analysis stating that the Sebastian County Judge's office also has a finance department with a comptroller to handle the accounting and budgetary functions of the county. Hotz then stated in that quote that this is what makes it all work so well. Robin Martin then asked what clouds things about the comptroller idea. Judge Day stated that the issue at hand is the combining of the Treasurer and Collector and reducing one elected official. Ms. Martin then asked if it was his desire to add a comptroller and finance department as step two. Judge Day replied with no.

Patty Lack of 4108 Forest Hill Road, Jonesboro approached stating she thinks the crowd is so big because of the issue at hand. She asked how transparent the county is and how much the public really knows about this. She stated that the only article in the paper was on December 17, 2025, after the first reading of the Ordinance to combine offices.

Roseann Askeland of 1901 Sherwood, Jonesboro approached stating that the only thing she has seen presented as a benefit is the loss of a position at \$145,000/year in pay and the new combined position pay would go up to \$180,000. She stated the cost of doing this was not really addressed and she thinks that it is a vital part in this to let the taxpayers know what they are getting out of this.

Kyler Painter of 1008 Oakdale, Jonesboro approached and specifically asked Judge Day why he has consistently been a massive (expletive) towards Garrett Barnes. Judge Day stated he would follow up later.

Sarah Mross of 3307 Kingsbury Street, Jonesboro approached asking if there had been any more evidence for the study presented as discussed in the

previous meeting or will we continue with just the reading pushing the matter to an election. Judge Day replied that there has not been a motion to formally do anything different. Ms. Mross stated that she just wanted to refresh the memory of the Quorum Court that more evidence has been asked for by the public.

Motion to adjourn to committees was made by Justice Couch and seconded by Justice Rogers. All Justices were in favor.

Meeting adjourned at 6:10 pm.

## **Transportation Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Date:** 01/12/2026

### **Call to Order:**

Justice Cline called the meeting to order at 6:12 PM.

### **Attendance:**

Justice Steve Cline, Justice Terry Couch, Justice David Tennison, Justice Garrett Barnes, Brian Crews, and County Judge Marvin Day were present.

### **Road Report:**

Brian Crews provided an update on current road projects.

### **Cockle Burr Slough Bridge Project Planning and Summary:**

Judge updated the committee on the Cockle Burr bridge project and feasibility study.

### **Adjournment:**

With no further business, a motion was made by Justice Terry Couch to adjourn, seconded by Justice Garrett Barnes. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:21 PM.

## **Public Services Committee Minutes**

**Date:** 01-12-202~~4~~<sup>6</sup>

**Call to Order:** Justice Richard Rogers called the Public Services Committee meeting to order at 6:11 PM.

**Attendance:** Justice Richard Rogers, Justice Brad Noel, Justice Linda Allison, and Justice Kevin Williams

### **Resolution recommending the re-appointment of Erin Morphis to the Valley View Fire Protection District Board:**

Motion to send to the full Quorum court made by Justice Linda Allison and seconded by Justice Kevin Williams. All in favor.

### **Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn made by Justice Brad Noel and seconded by Justice Linda Allison. All in favor. Meeting adjourned at 6:13 PM.

## Special Called Finance Committee Minutes

Date: 12-15-25

Call to Order: Meeting called to order at 5:15 PM.

Attendance: Justice Josh Longmire – Chair, Justice Dan Pasmore, Justice Darrel Cook, Justice Barry Forrest, Justice Rick Myers, Tax Collector Wes Eddington, and Treasurer Terry McNatt.

### Resolution to Approve 2026 Solid Waste Disposal Authority Budget

Angela Sparks, CEO of the Craighead County Solid Waste Disposal Authority, was present to review the proposed 2026 Solid Waste Budget. A motion by Justice Barry Forrest and a second by Justice Rick Myers were made to pass the resolution to the full Quorum Court. All in favor. Resolution will be presented to the full Quorum Court.

### Adjournment:

With no further business, Justice Darrell Cook made a motion to adjourn, and Justice Dan Pasmore seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.

## **Finance Committee Minutes**

**Date:** 01-12-2026

**Call to Order:** Meeting called to order at 6:12 PM.

**Attendance:** Justice Josh Longmire – Chair, Justice Dan Pasmore, Justice Darrel Cook, Justice Barry Forrest, Justice Rick Myers, Tax Collector Wes Eddington, and Treasurer Terry McNatt.

### **Tax Collection Report:**

Tax Collection report presented by Collector Eddington, noting tax collection is up 2.4%.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

Treasurer Terry McNatt presented the financial report, noting expenditures are down 1.5 million dollars.

### **An Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2025-21 to Correct a Scrivener's Error and Align Elected Officials' Pay with Ordinance 2022-36:**

A motion was made by Justice Darrel Cook and a second from Justice Dan Pasmore to read the ordinance by title only. All in favor. Ordinance read by title only. A motion by Justice Darrel Cook and a second from Justice Dan Pasmore were made to pass the ordinance to the full Quorum Court. *ALL IN FAVOR OF THIS*  
*NOTED*

### **An Appropriation Ordinance Amending the 2026 Budget to Correct Line-Items in Ordinance 2025-21**

A motion was made by Justice Darrell Cook and a second from Justice Dan Pasmore to read the ordinance by title only. All in favor. Ordinance read by title only. A motion by Justice Darrel Cook and a second from Justice Dan Pasmore were made to pass the ordinance to the full Quorum Court.

### **Public Comment:**

The committee heard public comments from Robin Martin.

### **Adjournment:**

With no further business, Justice Darrell Cook made a motion to adjourn, and Justice Rick Myers seconded. All in favor. Meeting adjourned.