



**SALINE COUNTY QUORUM COURT
AGENDA**

DATE-----September 18, 2023

PLACE-----Saline County Courthouse, Courtroom #3

6:30 P.M.-----Call Meeting to Order

INVOCATION

PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

CLERK: Call the Roll

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

REPORTS/PROCLAMATIONS:

OLD BUSINESS:

Exhibit A: Ordinance Amending Ordinance 2004 – 34, the Litter Control Ordinance (3rd Reading)

NEW BUSINESS:

Exhibit B: Ordinance Amending Ordinance No. 2010-13 to Amend the Saline County Personnel Policy Manual

Exhibit C: Ordinance Amending 2023 Saline County Budget Ordinance 2022-36

Exhibit D: Ordinance Amending 2023 Saline County Budget Ordinance 2022-36 for Additional Expenses Resulting from Saline County and Bryant 911 Emergency Center Consolidation

Exhibit E: Appointment to the Saline County Library Board to Replace Vacancy Expiring June 30, 2027 due to the Resignation of Board Member

Action Item: Request to Increase New Hire at the Assessors Personal Property office from \$14.87 to \$16.58 due to the 5 years of prior experience the employee is bringing back to the position, retroactive to the hire date of 8/02/2023. No additional funds needed for this request.

Action Item: Request to increase a New Hire at the Saline County OEM Office from \$76,017 to \$84,464 due to the experience the employee is bringing to the position, retroactive to the hire date of 8/14/2023. No additional funds needed for this request due to the removal of a position.

Action Item: Request to accept the rerate of the OEM Deputy Director position to include the Fire Service Coordinator duties and increase the hiring range for the position up to the new midpoint of \$67,629. Request to go ahead and post the position but not fill it until approval has been given by the Quorum Court. No additional funds needed for this request due to the removal of a position.

ADD ON:

DISCUSSION:

COMMENTS:

**SALINE COUNTY QUORUM COURT
MINUTES
AUGUST 21, 2023**

The Saline County Quorum Court met on Monday, August 21, 2023 at 6:30 p.m. in Courtroom #3 in the Saline County Courthouse. County Judge Matt Brumley called the meeting to order. Justice of the Peace Jim Whitley gave the invocation and Justice of the Peace Justin Rue led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken with all members present.

Motion by Rick Bellinger and seconded by Barbara Howell to approve the Minutes from the July 17, 2023 Quorum Court Meeting. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

REPORTS/PROCLAMATIONS:

NONE.

COMMENTS:

Judge Brumley moved the public comment to precede Exhibit "A". He informed those in attendance that had signed in to speak they would each have 3 minutes with a 30 second warning. He further stated that he would allow a total of 45 minutes for comment.

The following spoke in this order:

Robin Robinson
Rachel Glenn
Betty Van Bibber
Judy Pridgen
Pat Roberts
Fred McGraw
Pam Vidt
Carter Kirby (not a resident of Saline Co.)
Mary Lewis
Kristin Netters Higgins
Rhonda Covington
Dean McDonald, Jr.
Angela Gray
Brian Rousey (asked to leave podium)
Allison Gray
Gary Don Beck
Amanda Ewald
Jennifer Lancaster
Clint Lancaster

OLD BUSINESS:

Exhibit "A": Error found in proposed ordinance; motion by Josh Curtis and seconded by Clint Chism to suspend the rules and take it back to the First Reading.

Saline County Clerk Doug Curtis read corrected Ordinance Amending Ord. 1978-1, to revise the Obligations, Duties and Powers of the Administrative Saline County Library Board. Motion to approve First Reading; motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Motion by Josh Curtis and seconded by Rick Bellinger to suspend the rules and read title only of Second Reading of Exhibit "A". Rollcall vote taken; motion passed unanimously.

Motion by Josh Curtis and seconded by Jim Whitley to suspend the rules and read title only of Third Reading of Exhibit "A". Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Rollcall vote taken to pass Exhibit "A"; motion passed by majority, with 11 for and 2 opposed. Ordinance 2023-17.

Exhibit "B": Motion by Rick Bellinger and seconded by J. R. Walters for approval of Second Reading of Ordinance Amending Ord. 2004-34; The Litter Control Ordinance. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by C. J. and seconded by J. R. Walters to suspend the rules and read title only of Exhibit "C". Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Exhibit "C": Motion by C. J. Engel and seconded by Justin Rue to approve Resolution authorizing the Grant Application Process for the Edward Byrne Memorial Assistance Grant (JAG) Program. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Resolution 2023-12

Exhibit "D": Motion by J. R. Walters and seconded by Rick Bellinger for Appointment of Guilmar Juarez appointment to the Saline County, Arkansas Waterworks and Sanitary Sewer Public Facilities Board (Woodland Hills). Motion approved unanimously by voice vote.

Exhibit "E": This exhibit was withdrawn.

Motion by Rick Bellinger and seconded by Justin Rue to suspend the rules and read title only of Exhibit "F". Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Exhibit "F": Motion by Rick Bellinger and seconded by J. R. Walters to approve Ordinance to amend the 2023 Saline County Budget Ord. 2023-36 and amendments thereto; to appropriate Professional Development Recognition Payments and for other purposes. Roll call vote; motion approved unanimously. Ordinance 2023-18.

Motion by Carlton Billingsley and seconded by Josh Curtis to suspend the rules and read title only of Exhibit "G". Motion passed unanimously.

Exhibit "G": Motion by Carlton Billingsley and seconded by Josh Curtis to approve Ordinance Amending 2023 Saline County Budget Ord. 2022-36. Roll call vote; motion approved unanimously. Ordinance 2023-19.

DISCUSSION:

C. J. Engel asked the judge for an update of the consolidation of the OEM office for the City of Benton with the City of Bryant. Judge Brumley responded that there is an upcoming meeting which should address progress made. The judge also introduced Jerry Cohen as the new OEM director for the county.

Keith Keck gave an update on the Hot Springs Village pet vaccination clinic and thanked the county for the funding they have provided.

Barbara Howell announced that the annual fund raiser for the Avilla Fire Department will be held on September 23, 2023.

Motion made by C. J. Engel and seconded by J. R. Walters to adjourn. Motion passed by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

ORDINANCE NO. 2023 - __

BE IT ENACTED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF SALINE COUNTY, STATE OF ARKANSAS, AN ORDINANCE TO BE ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2004-34, THE LITTER CONTROL ORDINANCE."

WHEREAS, Saline County is a beautiful county, with many natural assets, that has its natural splendor marred by litter; and

WHEREAS, Ordinance No. 2004-34 ("Litter Control Act") has been effective for almost 20 years, but amendments are needed to ensure that the public is properly aware of the Litter Control Ordinance and to help create sufficient disincentives to littering; and

WHEREAS, the Quorum Court of Saline County is committed to the goal of the Litter Control Act, which is to improve the quality of life for all citizens of the State of Arkansas and County of Saline.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT ORDAINED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF SALINE COUNTY

Article 1. Section 3 of the Litter Control Act entitled "ENFORCEMENT OF THE ACT" is hereby amended to add the following underlined language:

The County Judge of Saline County shall, to the extent there are funds available, cause signage to be placed on County roads referencing the Litter Control Act and possible monetary penalties for violating the Act.

Article 2. Section 8 of the Litter Control Act entitled "VIOLATIONS-PENALTIES" is hereby amended to add the following underlined and delete the following struck-through language:

Every person convicted of a violation of Section 4, 5, or 6 of this Act shall be fined not less than \$500.00 ~~\$250.00~~ nor more than \$1,000.00 ~~\$500.00~~ except:

(2) That those persons who violate Section 4, 5, or 6 of this Act and who are found to have committed the prohibited acts in furtherance of or as part of a commercial enterprise, whether or not that enterprise is the disposal of wastes, shall be guilty of "commercial littering" and as such shall be fined not less than \$700.00 ~~\$350.00~~ nor more than \$1,000.00 ~~\$500.00~~. Additionally, those convicted may be required to remove any litter disposed of in violation of this Act.

Article 3. Section 10 of the Litter Control Act entitled "PENALTY" is hereby amended to add the following underlined and delete the following struck-through language:

Any person who violates any provision of Section 9 of this Act shall be fined not less than \$500.00 ~~\$250.00~~ nor more than \$1,000.00 ~~\$500.00~~.

Article 4. Section 14 of the Litter Control Act entitled "PROCEEDS FROM SALE OF JUNK MOTOR VEHICLES, OLD VEHICLE TIRES AND INOPERATIVE OR DISCARDED HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES" is hereby amended to add the following underlined and delete the following struck-through language:

PROCEEDS FROM SALE OF JUNK MOTOR VEHICLES, OLD VEHICLE TIRES, AND INOPERATIVE OR DISCARDED HOUSEHOLD APPLIANCES; OR FINES RECEIVED PURSUANT TO THIS ACT.

Any fines received pursuant to the "Litter Control Act" shall be utilized in accordance with Ark. Code Ann. § 8-6-404. However, in accordance with Ark. Code Ann. § 8-6-404(1), any fines received pursuant to the "Litter Control Act" while Saline County is a certified affiliate of Keep Arkansas Beautiful or Keep America Beautiful, Inc., shall be deposited into the "Litter Control Account" and used solely to pay for: (1) signage in Saline County informing the public of the Litter Control Act; and, (2) other educational awareness opportunities for the public associated with the Litter Control Act as deemed appropriate by the County Judge of Saline County.

Article 5. Any strikethroughs or underlined additions in Articles 1-4 above are to be deemed applied subsequent to passage but prior to publication and application of the terms set forth herein.

Article 6. The provisions of this Ordinance are to be liberally construed to accomplish the objectives and purposes hereof.

Article 7. If any section of this Ordinance shall be declared unconstitutional or unlawful, only that section of the ordinance shall be affected and all other provisions of the ordinance shall remain in full force and effect.

Article 8. Any parts of Saline County Quorum Court Emergency Ordinance 2004-34, or any other, or part of, any ordinance, resolution, rule, regulation now in effect that are in conflict with this Ordinance are herewith and hereby repealed to the extent of such conflict.

Article 9. A copy of the amended Litter Control Act, incorporating the additions and deletions set forth in this ordinance, and this ordinance shall be on file in the Office of the County Clerk and available for public inspection during normal business hours.

DATE: September 18, 2023

APPROVED: _____
MATT BRUMLEY
SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST: _____
DOUG CURTIS
SALINE COUNTY CLERK

SPONSOR: RICK BELLINGER, JP DISTRICT # 6

EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 2023 - _____

BE IT ENACTED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF SALINE COUNTY, STATE OF ARKANSAS, AN ORDINANCE TO BE ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2010-13 TO AMEND THE SALINE COUNTY PERSONNEL POLICY MANUAL."

Article I. Section 40 of the Saline County Personnel Policy entitled "COUNTY EQUIPMENT AND PROPERTY" is hereby amended to read as follows:

SECTION 40 COUNTY EQUIPMENT, AND PROPERTY, AND TECHNOLOGY RESOURCES

A. Use of County Equipment and Property

No related information or property, including without limitations, documents, files, records, computer files, equipment, or office supplies may be removed from Saline County premises except in the course of ordinary business. When an employee leaves employment with Saline County, the employee must return all related information and property that the employee has in his/her possession before receiving his/her termination pay.

B. Technology Resources Policy

This policy is established in accordance with Ark. Code Ann. § 25-1-128. County Technology Resources is defined as:

- The machines, devices, and transmission facilities used in information processing, including computers, word processors, terminals, telephones, cables, software, and related products;
- The devices used to process information through electronic capture, collection, storage, manipulation, transmission, retrieval, and presentation of information in the form of data, text, voice, or image and includes telecommunications and office automation functions;
- Any component related to information processing and wired and wireless telecommunications, including data processing and telecommunications hardware, software, services, planning, personnel, facilities, and training;
- The procedures, equipment, and software that are designed, built, operated, and maintained to collect, record, process, store, retrieve, display, and transmit information, and the associated personnel, including consultants and contractors; and
- All electronic mail accounts issued by Saline County.

County Technology Resources shall not be used to:

- Express a personal political opinion to an elected official unless the opinion is:
 - Within the scope of the employee's regular job duties; or
 - Requested by an elected official or Saline County;
- Engage in lobbying an elected official on a personal opinion if the employee is not a

EXHIBIT "B"

registered lobbyist for Saline County:

- Engage in illegal activities or activities otherwise prohibited by federal law or state law; or
- Intentionally override or avoid the security and system integrity procedures of Saline County.

Any employee found in violation of this policy may be subject to disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment. Disciplinary procedures under this Section shall not apply to employee communications made in compliance with the Public Employees' Political Freedom Act of 1999, Ark. Code Ann. § 21-1-501 et seq. or the Arkansas Whistle-Blower Act, Ark. Code Ann. § 21-1-601 et seq.

Article 2. EMERGENCY CLAUSE: There now exists in the Saline County Personnel Policy an immediate need to amend the policy regarding use of technology resources to comply with Act 504 of 2023. Therefore, an emergency is hereby declared to exist and this Ordinance shall be in full force and effect upon its date of passage.

DATE: September 18, 2023

APPROVED: _____

MATT BRUMLEY
SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST: _____
DOUG CURTIS
SALINE COUNTY CLERK

SPONSOR: J. R. WALTERS, JP DISTRICT #12
JIM WHITLEY, JP DISTRICT # 10

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 2023 - _____

BE IT ENACTED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF SALINE COUNTY, STATE OF ARKANSAS, AN ORDINANCE TO BE ENTITLED:

"AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2023 SALINE COUNTY BUDGET ORDINANCE NO. 2022-36; TO APPROPRIATE AND TRANSFER FUNDS THEREFORE TO THE VARIOUS BUDGETS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

WHEREAS, the County is eligible to continue the reimbursable federal VOCA Grant for the 2023-2024 grant year beginning October 1, 2023. The VOCA Grant shall be up-fronted by County General. There is no matching required for this Grant for the 2023-2024 Grant year, as well as a portion of the salaries and additional benefits for the employee. Upon the receipt and expiration of this grant, the County General shall be reimbursed by the VOCA Grant Fund 3760 (Article 1); and

WHEREAS, the County is eligible to continue the reimbursable federal STOP Grant for the 2023-2024 grant year beginning October 1, 2023. The STOP Grant shall be up-fronted by County General and County General shall be required to pay the match portion of health insurance for this Grant, as well as a portion of other expenses, such as cell phone. Upon the receipt and expiration of this grant, the County General shall be reimbursed by the STOP Grant Fund 3759 (Article 2); and

WHEREAS, the County is eligible to receive a reimbursable federal ICJR-Arrest Grant for the 2023-2026 grant year beginning October 1, 2023. The ICJR-Arrest Grant shall be up-fronted by County General. Upon the receipt and expiration of this grant, the County General shall be reimbursed by the any funds transferred to up-front Fund 3746 – ICJR-Arrest Grant. (Article 3); and

WHEREAS, pursuant to an agreement between the County and the City of Bryant, the County has received a request for reimbursement for construction of Bryant Parkway on land contiguous to the Saline County Airport, and the County Judge requests to transfer funds in Fund 2000 – County Road Fund department budget (Article 4); and

WHEREAS, the Saline County Broadband Committee will be surveying and distributing information to Saline County Residents regarding broadband access, affordability and education and requests funds to print surveys & flyers, the County Judge requests to appropriate funds in Fund 1000 – County General Fund, 0100 – County Judge department budget from unappropriated fund balance (Article 5); and

WHEREAS, the Finance Committee previously met and approved this request.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF SALINE COUNTY, ARKANSAS:

Article 1. Anticipated revenues be increased in Fund 3760 – VOCA Grant by \$26,441.42, and the sum of \$13,220.71 is hereby appropriated in Fund 3760 – VOCA Grant, 0400 – Sheriff Department budget as follows:

Line Item	Description	Amount
3760.7109	Other Federal Grants	\$13,220.71
3760.8801	Transfer from County General	\$13,220.71
3760.0400.0101	VOCA Grant Advocate	\$9,562.80
3760.0400.1006	Social Security Match	\$731.56
3760.0400.1008	Retirement	\$1,465.02

3760.0400.1010	Workers Compensation	\$8.61
3760.0400.1011	Unemployment	\$21.00
3760.0400.1009	Health Insurance Match	\$1,431.72

Article 2. Anticipated revenues be increased in Fund 3759 – STOP Grant by \$31,544.68, and the sum of \$15,772.34 is hereby appropriated in Fund 3759 – STOP Grant, 0400 – Sheriff Department budget and the sum of \$129.00 in Fund 1000 – County General, 0400 – Sheriff Department budget as follows:

Line Item	Description	Amount
3759.7109	Other Federal Grants	\$15,772.34
3759.8801	Transfer from County General	\$15,772.34
3759.0400.0101	STOP Grant Investigator	\$11,512.80
3759.0400.1006	Social Security Match	\$880.73
3759.0400.1008	Retirement	\$1,763.76
3759.0400.1010	Workers Compensation	\$162.33
3759.0400.1011	Unemployment	\$21.00
3759.0400.1009	Health Insurance Match	\$1,431.72
1000.0400.3022	Cell Phone	\$129.00

Article 3. Anticipated revenues be increased in Fund 3746 – ICJR-Arrest Grant by \$38,784.00 and the sum of \$38,784.00 is hereby appropriated in Fund 3746 – ICJR-Arrest Grant, various department budget as follows:

Line Item	Description	Amount
3746.7109	Other Federal Grants	\$38,784.00
3746.0416.1002	Part-Time Help	\$4,056.00
3746.0416.1006	Social Security Match	\$311.00
3746.0416.1008	Retirement	\$622.00
3746.0416.1010	Workers Compensation	\$5.00
3746.0416.1011	Unemployment Compensation	\$13.00
3746.0400.1001	Salary, Full-Time Investigator	\$11,175.00
3746.0400.1006	Social Security Match	\$854.00
3746.0400.1008	Retirement	\$1,712.00
3746.0400.1010	Workers Compensation	\$158.00
3746.0400.1011	Unemployment	\$21.00
3746.0400.1009	Health Insurance Match	\$82.00
3746.0400.3030	Travel	\$1,500.00
3746.0400.3094	Meals & Lodging	\$1,500.00
3746.0100.3030	Travel	\$2,200.00
3746.0100.3094	Meals & Lodging	\$2,025.00
3746.0811.3009	Other Professional Services	\$12,550.00

Article 4. That the sum of \$237,340.00 is hereby transferred in Fund 2000 – County Road Fund, 0200 – County Road budget as follows:

Transfer From	Description	Transfer To	Description	Amount
2000.0200.4008	Capital Outlay-Const.	2000.0200.3004	Engineering & Architect	\$237,340.00

Article 5. That the sum of \$5,600.00 is hereby appropriated in Fund 1000 – County General Fund, 0100 – County Judge department budget as follows:

Line Item	Description	Amount
1000.0100.3028	Communications-Broadband	\$5,600.00

Article 6. It is deemed necessary for the smooth operation of Saline County Government that this ordinance be approved.

DATE: SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

APPROVED _____
MATT BRUMLEY
SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST: _____
DOUG CURTIS
SALINE COUNTY CLERK

SPONSOR: J. R. WALTERS, JP DISTRICT #12

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 2023 - _____

BE IT ENACTED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF SALINE COUNTY, STATE OF ARKANSAS, AN ORDINANCE TO BE ENTITLED:

"AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2023 SALINE COUNTY BUDGET ORDINANCE NO. 2022-36; TO APPROPRIATE AND TRANSFER FUNDS THEREFORE TO THE 911 EMERGENCY FUND BUDGET; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

WHEREAS, the County has a MOU Agreement with the City of Bryant and the 911 Plan filed with the Arkansas Department of Emergency Management (ADEM) by Saline County to consolidate the Saline County Emergency Center and the City of Bryant 911 Emergency Center in the 2024 year; and

WHEREAS, the County received \$200,000.00 from Arkansas 911 Board for the PSAP Consolidation State Grant to reimburse the County for expenses already incurred by the County to consolidate the Saline County Emergency Center, the City of Benton 911 Center, and the City of Bryant 911 Center; and

WHEREAS, the Saline County 911 Board approved the request to begin training employees and other expenses necessary to be able to ensure that the City of Bryant 911 Center can be consolidated by January 1, 2023. The Communications Director and County Judge requests to appropriate revenues for the grant received, the anticipated reimbursement for the City of Bryant and the City of Benton's proportionate share, and appropriate a portion of the grant to the additional expenses in Fund 3020 – 911 Emergency Fund; and

WHEREAS, the Human Resource and Finance Committees previously met and approved this request.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF SALINE COUNTY, ARKANSAS:

Article 1. Anticipated revenues be increased in Fund 3020 – 911 Emergency Fund as follows:

Line Item	Description	Amount
3020.7032	PSAP Consolidation State Grant	\$200,000.00
3020.8725	Reimbursement – Miscellaneous	\$40,553.06

Article 2. That the sum of \$60,829.60 is hereby appropriated in Fund 3020 – 911 Emergency Fund , 0501 – 911 Emergency department budget as follows:

Line Item	Description	Amount
3020.0501.1001	Salaries, Full-Time	\$49,467.00
3020.0501.1006	Social Security Match	\$3,784.25
3020.0501.1008	Retirement	\$7,578.35

Article 3. It is deemed necessary for the smooth operation of Saline County Government that this ordinance be approved.

DATE: SEPTEMBER 18, 2023

APPROVED _____
MATT BRUMLEY
SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST: _____
DOUG CURTIS
SALINE COUNTY CLERK

SPONSOR: J. R. WALTERS, JP DISTRICT #12

APPOINTMENT

**IN THE MATTER OF AN APPOINTMENT TO
THE SALINE COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD**

WHEREAS, Laine Holleran resigned as a member of the Saline County Public Library Board for a term set to expire on June 30, 2027, thus creating a vacancy. It is considered to be in the best interest of the Library Board and the citizens of Saline County that Richard McKeown be appointed to fill this vacancy.

THEREFORE, in accordance with Ordinance No. 78-1, Richard McKeown is hereby appointed to fill the remainder of the five (5) year term on said Board to expire on June 30, 2027.

**MATT BRUMLEY
SALINE COUNTY JUDGE**

DATE: SEPTEMBER 18, 2023