



**SALINE COUNTY QUORUM COURT
AGENDA**

DATE-----May 20, 2024

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 Providing for Certificate Pay for Saline County Sheriff's Office Deputies (Third Reading)

NEW BUSINESS:

Exhibit B: Ordinance Adding Roads to the County Road System (First Reading)

Exhibit C: Resolution Authorizing the Grant Application for the Byrne Discretionary Community Project Grants/Rapid DNA System Pilot Program for Investigations – FY 2024-2028

Exhibit D: Appropriation Ordinance to Amend the 2024 Saline County Budget Ordinance No. 2023-30, Various Budgets

Exhibit E: Appropriation Ordinance to Amend the 2024 Saline County Budget Ordinance No. 2023-30 to Appropriate Funds for the Supplemental Stipend to Election Workers

ACTION ITEM 1: Request to add the supervisory control over 911 employees and the title of the OEM Director to the OEM/911 Director and increase the budgeted amount of line 3020.0501.0120 by 4.4%/\$3,877 annually to take effect on May 13, 2024. Due to the fact that several positions in the 911 Department have been vacant part of the year, no monies will be needed for this increase to the line in the 2024 budget.

ACTION ITEM 2: Request to move the grant position 1000.0451.0104 in the Prosecuting Attorney's Office to a full-time line from a part-time position with the condition of continued funding of the grant. Should the grant not be renewed, the position would be removed from the budget and no monies paid from that line.

ADD-ON:

Exhibit F: Resolution Expressing the Willingness of Saline County to Utilize Federal-Aid Surface Transportation Block Grant Program Funds for the Design and Planning of a Saline Crossing Boat Launch Project

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

PUBLIC COMMENT:

ADJOURNMENT.

**SALINE COUNTY QUORUM COURT
MINUTES
APRIL 15, 2024**

The Saline County Quorum Court met on Monday, April 15, 2024 at 6:30 p.m. in Courtroom #3 at 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 Clint Chism led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken with all members in attendance.

Motion by Rick Bellinger and seconded by Barbara Howell to approve the Minutes from the March 18, 2024 Quorum Court Meeting. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

REPORTS/PROCLAMATIONS:

A copy of the Prosecuting Attorney's Hot Check Report was given out to the members.

A Proclamation was presented by Judge Brumley declaring April 14th through April 20th Public Safety Telecommunications Week.

Additionally, Elly Stone, Intern from Arkansas Tech, was presented an honor by Jerry Cohen, Director and Stuart Duke, Deputy Director of OEM for all of her hard work and efforts during her time with Saline County.

OLD BUSINESS:

Motion by Rick Bellinger and seconded by Barbara Howell to suspend the rules and read title only of Exhibit "A". Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Exhibit "A": Second Reading of Ordinance Providing for Certificate of Pay for Saline County Sheriff's Office Deputies. No vote needed.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by C. J. Engel and seconded by Justin Rue to suspend the rules and read title only of Exhibit "B". Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

PUBLIC COMMENT:

The following spoke in regard to Exhibit "B":

Cindy Bowden
Lela Chism
Brittany Smith
Bob Vidt
James Chism

Rick Bellinger responded, stating he did not dispute that voters have a right to petition; however, he stated that he has a right to use his platform to express his opinion as an elected official.

Exhibit "B": Motion by Jim Whitley and seconded by Rick Bellinger to approve Resolution to Oppose the Proposed Arkansas Abortion Amendment to Amendment 68 of the Arkansas Constitution in Accordance with the Policy of Saline County, Arkansas as set forth in Saline County Resolution No. 2021-8. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Resolution 2024-10.

Motion by Josh Curtis and seconded by Barbara Howell to suspend the rules and read title only of Exhibit "C". Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Exhibit "C": Motion by Josh Curtis and seconded by Carlton Billingsley to approve Appropriation Ordinance to Amend the 2024 Saline County Budget Ordinance No. 2023-30. Roll call vote; motion approved unanimously. Ordinance 2024-9.

Motion by Rick Bellinger and seconded by Carlton Billingsley to suspend the rules and read title only of Exhibit "D". Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Exhibit "D": Motion by Pat Bisbee and seconded by Rick Bellinger to approve Ordinance to Establish a Special Revenue Grant Fund to be called the Adult Drug Court – Opioid Settlement Fund. Roll call vote; motion approved unanimously. Ordinance 2024-10.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Keith Keck stated the last day to challenge the Broad Band Project is April 20, 2024.

Judge Brumley gave an update on the many projects the county has been working on.

The preliminary contract for the Saline County Jail improvements has been signed and construction should begin on June 1, 2024.

The goal of completion on the Wireless Project is September 2025.

The water project continues to move forward with no burden on the tax payers of Saline County.

ADJOURNMENT:

Motion by Rick Bellinger and seconded by Josh Curtis to adjourn meeting. Motion passed by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 7:05.

ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - _____

BE IT ENACTED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF SALINE COUNTY, STATE OF ARKANSAS, AN ORDINANCE TO BE ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE PROVIDING FOR CERTIFICATE PAY FOR SALINE COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE DEPUTIES BASED ON THEIR CURRENT ARKANSAS COMMISSION ON LAW ENFORCEMENT STANDARDS AND TRAINING PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATES."

WHEREAS, Ark. Code Ann. § 14-14-801, as provided by Arkansas Constitution, Amendment 55, § 1, Part (a), states that a county quorum court may fix the number and compensation of deputies and county employees; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training has established minimum standards for the training of law enforcement officers and a Saline County Sheriff's Office Deputy must possess a Basic certification to be employed as a Deputy at the Saline County Sheriff's Office; and

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training also provides for General, Intermediate, Advanced, and Senior Training Certificates; and

WHEREAS, the Quorum Court of Saline County desires to compensate Saline County Sheriff's Office Deputies for obtaining Training Certificates.

NOW THEREFORE BE IT ORDAINED by the Quorum Court of Saline County, Arkansas that:

Article 1. In addition to annual pay, Saline County Sheriff's Office ("SCSO") Deputies shall receive additional compensation ("certificate pay") based on their current Arkansas Commission on Law Enforcement Standards and Training ("CLEST") Certificates.

Article 2. ~~SCSO Deputies shall receive certificate pay if they possess a General Certificate or higher and they have been employed by the SCSO for at least 12 consecutive months.~~ CLEST-certified SCSO personnel who possess or acquire a General Certificate or higher shall receive certificate pay based on their hire date or the date the certificate was awarded. Certificate pay shall be prorated in the calendar year in which the personnel became eligible, based on the date upon which the employee was awarded an eligible certificate or upon the hire date if the employee held an eligible certificate upon being hired.

Article 3. The amount of certificate pay that a SCSO Deputy shall receive shall be based on the following:

General Certificate: \$125 per month

Intermediate Certificate: \$175 per month

Advanced Certificate: \$200 per month

Senior Certificate: \$250 per month

~~**Article 4.** If an employee with prior Arkansas law enforcement experience is hired and possesses certificate(s), it will be at the discretion of the Saline County Sheriff whether that employee receives any pro-rated certificate pay between six and twelve months.~~

~~Article 5.~~ **Article 4.** Certificate pay will be paid in a one-time, lump sum at the first pay period in December of each calendar year.

~~If an employee is terminated or resigns for any reason prior to the 23rd pay period, the employee will receive prorated compensation for certificate pay for the time served during that given year. If an employee is terminated or resigns for any reason prior to the 23rd pay period, the employee shall not receive certificate pay for the time served during that given year. This article shall not apply to authorized retirements.~~

It is the responsibility of each SCSO Deputy to present ~~his/her~~ his or her certificates to the SCSO Training Officer and the Saline County Human Resources Office prior to November 1st of each calendar year.

It is the responsibility of each SCSO Deputy to ensure their proper certificates are in their respective files. If there is not an actual certificate on file, the SCSO deputy will not be compensated.

Article 5. Severability – Should any word, phrase, or section of this ordinance be held to be invalid or unconstitutional by a court of competent jurisdiction, such invalidity shall not affect the force and validity of the remaining portion of sections of this ordinance.

Article 6. Retroactive Applicability – This Ordinance shall apply retroactively and be considered effective as of January 1, 2024.

DATE: April 15, 2024

APPROVED: _____

MATT BRUMLEY
SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST: _____
DOUG CURTIS
SALINE COUNTY CLERK

SPONSOR: BARBARA HOWELL, JP DISTRICT #4

3rd Reading

ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - _____

BE IT ENACTED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF SALINE COUNTY, STATE OF ARKANSAS, AN ORDINANCE TO BE ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORD. 92-36 FOR THE PURPOSE OF ADDING ROADS TO THE COUNTY ROAD SYSTEM".

Article 1. The following roads in Saline County have been inspected and found to be in compliance with Ordinances 88-32 and 99-47 and therefore eligible to be included in the county road system. Therefore, these roads are hereby accepted and added to the County Road System.

Kindness Court	570 Feet
Peace Lane	515 Feet of Extension
Hickory Hill Drive	677 Feet
Pine Hill Drive	650 Feet
Williams Creek Drive	2422 Feet
Charley Place	1224 Feet
Hannah Lane	1181 Feet
Hazel Oak Drive	311 Feet
Julette Way	500 Feet
Dudley Road	146 Feet of Extension
Settlement House	479 Feet
Province	825 Feet of Extension
Cambri Lane	575 Feet
Kaysen Lane	990 Feet
Kaysen Lane (West)	236 Feet

Article 2. It is deemed necessary for the smooth operation of Saline County Government that this ordinance be approved.

DATED: May 20, 2024

APPROVED _____
MATT BRUMLEY
SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST _____
DOUG CURTIS
SALINE COUNTY CLERK

SPONSOR: BARBARA HOWELL, JP DISTRICT #4

1st Reading

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - _____

SALINE COUNTY QUORUM COURT

A RESOLUTION authorizing the grant application process for the Byrne Discretionary Community Project Grants/Byrne Discretionary Grants Program/Rapid DNA System Pilot Program for Investigations – FY 2024-2028, and providing other assurances.

WHEREAS, the need for equipment to be housed at the Detention Center to be used for the testing of DNA to assist in investigations by the Sheriff’s Department; and

WHEREAS, the need to conduct investigations with the most accuracy, in order to provide the best data as possible to assist the Saline County Sheriff’s Office on delivering the best information for courts and to close cases, and

WHEREAS, the funding requested through the Byrne Discretionary Grants Program/Rapid DNA System Pilot Program for Investigations – FY 2024-2028 will provide \$1,000,000.00 to address these needs, and matching funds are not required; and

WHEREAS, the members of the Saline County Quorum Court have had an opportunity to review and comment on the contents of the Byrne Discretionary Grants Program/Rapid DNA System Pilot Program for Investigations – FY 2024-2028 grant application; and

WHEREAS, the Saline County Quorum Court assures the United States Department of Justice, Office of Justice Programs, Bureau of Justice Assistance that the application or any future amendments have been or will be made public and an opportunity to comment has been or will be provided to citizens.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Saline County Quorum Court hereby authorizes and directs the Saline County Grants Administrator to submit the Byrne Discretionary Grants Program/Rapid DNA System Pilot Program for Investigations – FY 2024-2028 grant application.

DATE: MAY 20, 2024

APPROVED: _____
MATT BRUMLEY
SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

Attest: _____
DOUG CURTIS
SALINE COUNTY CLERK

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - _____

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

"AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2024 SALINE COUNTY BUDGET ORDINANCE NO. 2023-30; ANTICIPATE REVENUE AND TO APPROPRIATE/TRANSFER FUNDS THEREFORE TO THE VARIOUS BUDGETS; AND, FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

WHEREAS, the County previously appropriated funds in the 2023 budget for the purchase of a combiner to be used in the 911 Plan to consolidate the City of Bryant into the Saline County Emergency Center in the 2024 year, but the combiner was delayed in shipment and the 2023 financial year was closed prior to that shipment; and in the consolidation, the City of Benton, the City of Bryant, and the County share the costs of the combiner and other added expenses due the consolidation, with the City of Bryant contributing 50% of the cost by vote of the Board (Article 1); and, the 911 Department requests to appropriate funds in Fund 3020 – 911 Emergency Fund for the payment of this invoice; and

WHEREAS, the Sheriff's Office has one current administration vehicle that is going to cost several thousand to repair or trade on another replacement vehicle, which they have found in accordance with state contract; and the County has sold many of the prior fleet through auction, and the funds have been deposited into the County General Fund; and the Sheriff requests to use a portion of these funds to replace this needed vehicle and appropriate funds in Fund 1000 – County General Fund, 0400 – Sheriff Department budget (Article 2); and,

WHEREAS, the Public Defender's Office has several employees going to conferences; and the Public Defender requests to transfer funds to travel from small equipment and part-time help line items in Fund 3024 – Public Defender's Fund (Article 3); and,

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

Article 1. That the sum of \$58,894.57 is hereby appropriated and anticipated revenues increased in Fund 3020 – 911 Emergency Fund budget as follows:

Line Item	Description	Amount
3020.0501.4004	Capt Outlay-Machinery	\$58,894.57
3020.8725	Reimb – Miscellaneous	\$65,000.00

Article 2. That the sum of \$34,000.00 is hereby appropriated and anticipated revenues increased in Fund 1000 – County General Fund, 0400 – Sheriff Department budget as follows:

Line Item	Description	Amount
1000.0400.4004	Capt Outlay-Vehicles	\$34,000.00
1000.8711	Sale of Equipment	\$34,000.00

Article 3. That the sum of \$10,000.00 is hereby transferred in the Fund 3024 – Public Defender's Fund budget and appropriated as follows:

Transfer From	Description	Transfer To	Description	Amount
3024.0417.1002	Part-Time Help	3024.0417.3030	Travel	\$5,000.00
3024.0417.2002	Small Equipment	3024.0417.3030	Travel	\$2,500.00
3024.0417.2002	Small Equipment	3024.0417.3094	Meals & Lodging	\$2,500.00

Article 4. It is deemed necessary for the smooth operation of Saline County Government that this ordinance be approved.

DATE: MAY 20, 2024

APPROVED _____
MATT BRUMLEY
SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST: _____
DOUG CURTIS
SALINE COUNTY CLERK

SPONSOR: BARBARA HOWELL, JP DISTRICT #4

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 2024 - _____

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

"AN ORDINANCE APPROPRIATING FUNDS RECEIVED FROM THE STATE BOARD OF ELECTION COMMISSIONERS OFFICE FOR SUPPLEMENTAL STIPEND TO ELECTION WORKERS FOR THE YEAR 2024."

WHEREAS, the County Clerk received checks from the Arkansas State Board of Election Commissioners ("State Board") as reimbursement for election workers attending required election trainings and the County Clerk Office Manager/Election Coordinator for attending required election coordinator training; and,

WHEREAS, the County compensates election workers, and also the County Clerk Office Manager/Election Coordinator, for performing such duties; and,

WHEREAS, the County Clerk requests to appropriate these funds received from the State Board to pay an additional stipend/bonus to the County Clerk Office Manager/Election Coordinator, other employees in the County Clerk's office, and Election Commissioners; and,

WHEREAS, the County will be responsible for FICA and APERS employer portion for these stipends/bonuses to the employees; 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. That Fund 1000 – County General Fund shall be increased by the County Treasurer with additional Anticipated Revenues of \$1,524.96 for the year 2024.

Line Item	Description	Amount
1000.8719	Reimbursement-Elections	\$1,524.96

Article 2. That \$1,524.96 is hereby appropriated in Fund 1000 – County General Fund, Election Worker Pay-Election Commission budget as follows:

Line Item	Description	Amount
1000.0109.1036	Employee Bonus	\$1,500.00
1000.0109.1006	Social Security Match	\$114.75
1000.0109.1008	Retirement Match	\$91.80
1000.0109.3030	Travel	\$24.96

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

DATE: MAY 20, 2024

APPROVED _____
MATT BRUMLEY
SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST: _____
DOUG CURTIS
SALINE COUNTY CLERK

SPONSOR: BARBARA HOWELL, JP #4

RESOLUTION NO. 2024 - _____

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

**“A RESOLUTION EXPRESSING THE WILLINGNESS OF SALINE COUNTY TO UTILIZE
FEDERAL-AID SURFACE TRANSPORTATION BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM FUNDS.”**

WHEREAS, Saline County understands the Federal-aid Surface Transportation Block Grant Program funds are available at 80% federal participation and 20% local match to develop or improve the Saline Crossing Boat Launch; and

WHEREAS, Saline County has obligated \$100,000 to be used for recreation planning in Saline County; and

WHEREAS, The County is interested in designing and planning for the construction of a boat launch to increase utilization of the Saline River Water Trail and add water sports and recreation to the growing attraction of the Old River Bridge, the Southwest Trail, and the Saline Crossing Recreational area; and

WHEREAS, Saline County understands Federal-aid Funds are available for this project on a reimbursable basis, requiring work to be accomplished and proof of payment prior to actual money reimbursement; and

WHEREAS, This project, using federal funding, will be open and available for use by the general public and maintained by the applicant for the life of the project.

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED THAT:

Article 1. Saline County will participate in accordance with its designated responsibility, including maintenance of this project.

Article 2. Saline County Judge Matt Brumley is hereby authorized and directed to execute all appropriate agreements and contracts necessary to expedite the construction of the above stated project.

Article 3. Saline County pledges its full support and hereby authorizes the Arkansas Department of Transportation to initiate action to implement this project

DATE: May 20, 2024

APPROVED _____
MATT BRUMLEY
SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST: _____
DOUG CURTIS
SALINE COUNTY CLERK