



**SALINE COUNTY QUORUM COURT
AGENDA**

DATE-----**October 17, 2022**
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:

Proclamation in Support of Lizah Clifton

Report Regarding Disposal of Property Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 14-16-106(c)

OLD BUSINESS:

NEW BUSINESS:

Exhibit “A” Ordinance Approving Amended PSAP Interlocal Agreement Between Saline County, the City of Benton, and Bryant; Amended PSAP Interlocal Agreement attached as Exhibit “1”

ADD ON:

Exhibit “B” Ordinance Amending 2022 Saline County Budget Ordinance 2021-31—FY 22-23 JAG Grant

Exhibit “C” Appointment to the Saline County Public Facilities Board

Exhibit “D” Appointment to the Saline County Public Facilities Board

Exhibit “E” Appointment to the Saline County Public Facilities Board

Exhibit “F” Appointment to the Saline County Public Facilities Board

DISCUSSION:

COMMENTS:

**SALINE COUNTY QUORUM COURT
MINUTES
SEPTEMBER 19, 2022**

The Saline County Quorum Court met on Monday, September 19, 2022 at 6:30 p.m. in Courtroom #3 in the Saline County Courthouse. County Judge Jeff Arey called the meeting to order. Justice of the Peace Jim Whitley gave the invocation and Judge Arey led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll call was taken with 11 members present. Everett Hatcher and Josh Curtis were not in attendance.

Motion by J. R. Walters and seconded by Barbara Howell to approve the minutes from the August 15, 2022 Quorum Court Meeting. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

REPORTS/PROCLAMATIONS:

Proclamation in Support of Bryant Black Sox 9-Year-Old All-Stars present by Judge Arey and Carlton Billingsley.

COMMENTS:

Judge Arey moved the comments to the beginning of the Agenda.

Salem Fire Chief Gill Carpenter spoke about the need for more and better cell towers for the Fire Departments throughout the county. He stressed the need for better communication between the Quorum Court and the Fire Departments. He also talked about the FEMA Grant and how those funds were being used.

Informational Item: Presentation from Keith Corpier from the Saline County Soil Conservation Office. In addition, their office provided a meal hand-out regarding the work they do for our county and throughout Arkansas.

Informational Item: Judge Arey gave an update on the progress of the Saline County Jail expense.

OLD BUSINESS:

Exhibit "A": Third reading of Ordinance Adding Roads to the County Road System. Motion by Carlton Billingsley and seconded by J. R. Walters to approve. Rollcall vote; motion passed unanimously. Ordinance 2022-19.

NEW BUSINESS:

Motion by J. R. Walters and seconded by Jim Whitley to suspend the rules and read the title only of Exhibits "B" through "G". Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Exhibit “B”: Motion by Tammy Schmidt and seconded by Keith Keck to approve Ordinance Authorizing Crows Station Fire Protection District to Annex Certain Property; Legal Description included as Exhibit”B-1”; also included are copies of the signed Petitions. Rollcall vote; motion passed unanimously. Ordinance 2022-20.

Exhibit “C”: Motion by Barbara Howell and seconded by Pat Bisbee for approval of Appropriation Ordinance Authorizing Stipend from Arkansas State Board of Election Commissioners. Rollcall vote; motion passed unanimously. Ordinance 2022-21.

Exhibit “D”: Motion by Tammy Schmidt and seconded by Barbara Howell for approval of Resolution Authorizing VOCA Grant Application for 2022-23. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Resolution 2022-6.

Exhibit “E”: Motion by Tammy Schmidt and seconded by Barbara Howell for approval of Resolution Authorizing STOP Grant Application for 2022-23. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote. Resolution 2022-7.

Exhibit “F”: Motion by Pat Bisbee and seconded by Keith Keck to approve Emergency Ordinance Designating IT Services as Professional Services. Rollcall vote; motion passed unanimously. Ordinance 2022-22.

Exhibit “G”: Motion by Barbara Howell and seconded by Carlton Billingsley to approve Ordinance Amending 2021 Saline County Budget Ordinance 2021-31. Rollcall vote; motion passed unanimously. Ordinance 2022-23.

Action Item 1 – Motion by Tammy Schmidt and seconded by Barbara Howell to approve Court Security Request to Increase Hiring Rate of Former Employee with Retroactive Pay. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Action Item 2 – Motion by Carlton Billingsley and seconded by Jim Whitely to approve Sheriff’s Office Request to Change Position Title and Approve Pay Ranges. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

ADD ON:

Motion made by Pat Bisbee and seconded by Keith Keck to allow Add-on of Exhibits “H” and “I”. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Motion made by Tammy Schmidt and seconded by Barbara Howell to suspend the rules and read the title only of Exhibits “H” and “I”. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Exhibit “H”: Motion by Barbara Howell and seconded by Tammy Schmidt to approve Ordinance Appropriating County General and VOCA Grant FY 22-23 Funds for FY 22. Rollcall vote; motion passed unanimously. Ordinance 2022-24.

Exhibit “I”: Motion by Tammy Schmidt and seconded by Barbara Howell for approval of Ordinance Appropriating County General and STOP Grant FY 22-23 Funds for FY 22. Rollcall vote; motion passed unanimously. Ordinance 2022-25.

Motion made by J. R. Walters and seconded by Clint Chism to allow Add On of Exhibits “J” and “K”. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Motion made by J. R. Walters and seconded by Clint Chism to suspend the rules and read the title only of Exhibit “J”. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Exhibit “J”: Motion by J. R. Walters and seconded by Jim Whitley to approve Ordinance Appropriating \$8,500,000.00 for the Saline County Detention Facility Expansion Project. Rollcall vote; motion passed unanimously. Ordinance 2022-26.

Motion made by J. R. Walters and seconded by Tammy Schmidt to suspend the rules and read the title only of Exhibit “K”. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

Exhibit “K”: Motion by J. R. Walters and seconded by Pat Bisbee to approve Ordinance Appropriating \$5,381,801.00 for the Saline County Office of Emergency Management AWIN Simulcast Project. Rollcall vote; motion passed with 9 for and 2 against. Ordinance 2022-27.

Motion made by Pat Bisbee and seconded by J. R. Walters to adjourn. Motion passed by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 7:23 p.m.

EMERGENCY ORDINANCE 2022-_____

BE IT ENACTED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF SALINE COUNTY, STATE OF ARKANSAS, AN ORDINANCE TO BE ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE APPROVING THE AMENDED PSAP INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT BETWEEN SALINE COUNTY, ARKANSAS, THE CITY OF BENTON, AND THE CITY OF BRYANT; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."

WHEREAS, the Arkansas Public Safety Communications and Next Generation 911 Act of 2019 authorizes each chief executive to direct the establishment and operation of public safety answering points ("PSAP") in their political subdivisions, to designate the location of a PSAP, and agency which is to operate the PSAP; and

WHEREAS, Saline County passed Ordinance No. 24 of 2020 and the City of Benton passed Ordinance No. 49 of 2020 authorizing the Saline County Judge and the Mayor of the City of Benton to enter into an interlocal cooperation agreement to implement, operate, and maintain a combined PSAP for Saline County and the City of Benton ("Saline County PSAP"); and

WHEREAS, on September 29, 2020, the Saline County Judge and Mayor of the City of Benton executed an interlocal cooperation agreement ("PSAP Interlocal Agreement"), which established a combined communications network ("Saline County Emergency Communications Center"), to provide for the health, safety, and welfare of the residents of Saline County; and, to receive emergency calls which may result in dispatch of the appropriate response for fire suppression and rescue, emergency medical services, hazardous material, disaster or major emergency occurrences, and law enforcement activities; and

WHEREAS, the PSAP Interlocal Agreement, in Section Ten, provides that "other municipalities are invited to fund and participate in this agreement if they so desire by giving a written notice to the 911 Governing Board . . ."; and

WHEREAS, the City of Bryant has provided written notice to the 911 Governing Board; and

WHEREAS, Saline County, the City of Benton, and the City of Bryant have determined that it is in the best interests of their citizens for the City of Bryant to enter into an amended interlocal cooperation agreement ("Amended PSAP Interlocal Agreement") for the purposes of the City of Bryant joining the Saline County PSAP and Saline County Emergency Communications Center, authorizing the Mayor of the City of Bryant, Bryant Police Chief, and Bryant Fire Chief to join the 911 Governing Board, and to help finance the Saline County Emergency Communications Center.

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

Article 1. Pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 14-14-910, the Saline County Judge, Mayor of the City of Benton, and the Mayor of the City of Bryant have the authority to enter into the Amended PSAP Interlocal Agreement subject to the approval of the respective legislative bodies.

Article 2. The purpose of the Amended PSAP Interlocal Agreement is to authorize the City of Bryant and its citizens to receive the benefits and be served by the Saline County PSAP and the Saline County Emergency Communications Center, to better provide for their health, safety and welfare; authorizing the Mayor of the City of Bryant, Bryant Police Chief, and Bryant Fire Chief to join the 911 Governing Board; and, to authorize the City of Bryant to help finance the Saline County Emergency Communications Center.

Article 3. Be it further understood the Quorum Court by passage of this Ordinance, approves the Amended PSAP Interlocal Agreement, which is attached hereto as Exhibit “1,” and, that the terms and conditions of Ark. Code Ann. § 14-14-910 have been met and complied with. The Amended PSAP Interlocal Agreement establishes a perpetual relationship between Saline County, the City of Benton, and the City of Bryant.

Article 4. 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 5. EMERGENCY CLAUSE – Because of the need to provide emergency services effectively within and throughout Saline County, an emergency is hereby declared to exist, and this Ordinance being necessary for the preservation of the public peace, health, and safety, shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

DATE: OCTOBER 17, 2022

APPROVED: _____
JEFF AREY
SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST: _____
DOUG CURTIS
SALINE COUNTY CLERK

SPONSOR: JOSH CURTIS, JP DISTRICT #7

AMENDED INTERLOCAL COOPERATION AGREEMENT

SECTION 1: PARTIES TO AGREEMENT

This amended interlocal cooperation agreement ("Amended PSAP Interlocal Agreement") is entered into by and between the County Court of Saline County, acting through the County Judge, the City of Benton, acting through its Mayor, and the City of Bryant, acting through its Mayor, pursuant to Ark. Code Ann. § 14-14-910.

SECTION 2: PURPOSE OF AGREEMENT

The purpose of this Amended PSAP Interlocal Agreement is to establish a combined communications network, which shall be known as the Saline County Emergency Communications Center (hereinafter "Center"), to better provide for the health, safety and welfare of all citizens of Saline County. The further purpose is to streamline the dispatching of non-emergency and emergency calls as received over the 911 telephone system and by other means. The location of the public safety answering point ("PSAP") shall be determined by the 911 Governing Board. The combined PSAP would serve the areas of, but not limited to, the unincorporated areas of Saline County, Arkansas and the incorporated areas of Benton, Haskell, Shannon Hills, Bauxite, Traskwood Alexander, and Bryant, Arkansas.

SECTION 3: ORGANIZATION, STRUCTURE & PURPOSE

The City of Benton and the City of Bryant designates Saline County, and Saline County hereby agrees to accept, the responsibility for serving as the public safety answering point for the City of Benton and the City of Bryant.

A Board is hereby created consisting of the Saline County Judge, Mayor of the City of Benton, Saline County Sheriff, Benton Police Chief, Benton Fire Chief, OEM Director, Ambulance Service Manager, Mayor of the City of Bryant, Bryant Police Chief, Bryant Fire Chief, and Fire Service Coordinator ("911 Governing Board" or "Board"). Said Board shall meet at a minimum of quarterly to review the operations of the Center, and discuss any changes or issues. The Board will review and approve an annual budget of costs. A.C.A. § 12-10-323 sets forth the authorized expenditures for 911 revenue. Any capital expenditures for the Center must be approved by a majority of the members of the Board before said expenditure is authorized. The above membership will serve by virtue of their term in office or employment with local government. From time to time, or as may be necessary, any of the above membership may select their own designee to attend business and other matters of the 911 Governing Board.

SECTION 4: PURPOSE OF THE 911 GOVERNING BOARD

The purpose of the 911 Governing Board shall be to assure that the Center is at all times properly funded. The further purpose of the Board shall be to hire, supervise, and evaluate the performance (including discipline and termination) of a "Communications Manager" to manage the system, and to establish policies and procedures and adopt necessary guidelines for efficient operation of the system.

SECTION 5: MANNER OF FINANCING CENTER

The Benton City Council, Bryant City Council, and the Saline County Quorum Court shall be responsible for financing the operation of the Center. All monies appropriated for the Center shall be paid into a fund and managed by the Communications Manager within specific guidelines as established by the County budget process and the 911 Governing Board. All procurement for the system shall be governed by the County purchasing and procurement procedures.

All monies generated from emergency telephone service charges and funds received or allocated by the Arkansas 911 Board to the City of Benton, City of Bryant, after January 1, 2024, and County shall go to the operation of the Center. In the event that those funds are insufficient to meet the operating expenses of the system, the City of Benton, City of Bryant, after January 1, 2024, and Saline County shall share the shortfall costs based upon the percentage of their population according to the most recent Census. The City of Bryant and the City of Benton's percentages will be based on the populations of the incorporated areas of the City of Benton and the City of Bryant. Saline County's percentage will be based on the population of the unincorporated areas of the county as well as the incorporated areas of Haskell, Shannon Hills, Bauxite, Traskwood and Alexander.

SECTION 6: TITLES TO EXISTING AND FUTURE PROPERTY

The title to fixed assets held by all participants at the time of this Amended PSAP Interlocal Agreement shall remain unchanged. Future property and additional assets may be acquired by the Center, provided that the County, City of Bryant, or City of Benton's purchasing and procurement procedures have been met, and these new assets shall be held in the name of the Center.

SECTION 7: DUTIES OF COMMUNICATIONS MANAGER

First and foremost, the Communications Manager shall coordinate the services of the system to serve the needs of the Center in delivering a high level of service to protect the citizens of Saline County. The Manager's duties shall include, but are not limited to, the following:

- a. Employ the staff and oversee all aspects of personnel management; this includes the authority to promote, discipline, and terminate employment pursuant to County policies.
- b. Provide training and maintain quality control for the staff and others who use the system. Develop methods to certify that the staff is proficient and capable.
- c. Manage the day-to-day fiscal affairs of the system which includes, but is not limited to, purchasing, providing for maintenance of equipment, etc., within the budget set forth by the 911 Governing Board and approved by the Benton City Council, Bryant City Council, and Saline County Quorum Court. The Manager shall comply with all of the County purchasing and procurement procedures and exercise good judgment and sound business practices in execution of these duties.
- d. The Manager shall work closely with the 911 Governing Board and plan and execute a budget. The Manager shall be required to render reports and make necessary appearances before the Board, the Benton City Council, Bryant City Council, and the Saline County Quorum Court.
- e. The Manager shall investigate all complaints and other matters as set forth by citizens, officers in the field, the Board, and the City of Bryant, City of Benton, or County.
- f. The Manager shall be the custodian of the records for 911 and for the communications system.
- g. Any other duties as determined by the 911 Governing Board.

SECTION 8: DURATION OF ENTITY

The duration of this Amended PSAP Interlocal Agreement is intended by the parties to be perpetual in nature. However, this Amended PSAP Interlocal Agreement may be terminated, provided that written notice thereof shall have been given by the respective governing body to the other parties at least one year in advance of the proposed date of withdrawal.

SECTION 9: EMPLOYEE BENEFITS AND PERSONNEL POLICY

The 911 Governing Board will be responsible for setting the pay scale of employees within the combined PSAP.

SECTION 10: ADDITIONAL PARTIES AND AREA SERVED

The combined PSAP would serve the unincorporated areas of Saline County, Arkansas and the incorporated areas of Benton, Haskell, Shannon Hills, Bauxite, Traskwood, Bryant and Alexander, Arkansas. Services will be provided to the police and fire departments of the respective municipalities, as well as the volunteer agencies who have been duly recognized by the 911 Governing Board. Other municipalities are invited to fund and participate in this Amended PSAP Interlocal Agreement if they so desire by giving a written notice to the 911 Governing Board.

SECTION 11: EFFECTIVENESS

This Amended PSAP Interlocal Agreement shall become effective on the _____ day of _____, 2022, provided that prior to said date, it has been submitted to the legal counsel for each party and a determination rendered as to whether it is in proper form and compatible with all applicable laws. An agreement of this type must be authorized by the ordinances of the respective legislative bodies before it is effective. Therefore, a copy of the respective ordinances is made a part of this document by incorporation, SEE EXHIBITS A, B and C.

This Amended PSAP Interlocal Agreement shall become effective on the date when the last of the above specified acts shall have been accomplished and at that time it shall be duly recorded and filed with the Saline County Clerk.

Jeff Arey
Saline County Judge

Tom Farmer
Mayor, City of Benton

Approved as to form:

Will Gruber
County Attorney

Baxter Drennon
City Attorney

Allen Scott
Mayor, City of Bryant

Approved as to form:

Ashley Clancy
City Attorney

Attestation:

Doug Curtis
Saline County Clerk

Date Entered by Clerk

EXHIBIT "B"

APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 2022 - ____

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

“AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2022 SALINE COUNTY BUDGET ORDINANCE NO. 2021-31; TO APPROPRIATE AND TRANSFER FUNDS THEREFORE TO THE VARIOUS BUDGETS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES.”

WHEREAS, the Sheriff received a reimbursable Justice Assistance Grant (JAG) Program for the 2022-2023 grant period. The Sheriff requests to appropriate the grant funds of \$15,268.00 from Fund 3761 - JAG Grant, Sheriff Department, for small equipment to be purchased in accordance with grant application. This reimbursable grant will be upfronted by County General and returned back to County General upon the completion of the grant (Article 1); and,

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

Article 1. That the sum of \$30,536.00 is hereby appropriated in the JAG Grant, Sheriff Department budget as follows:

Line Item	Description	Amount
3761.0400.2002	Small Equipment	\$15,268.00
3761.0400.9999	Transfers Out – to Co. General	\$15,268.00

Article 2. Anticipated revenues for Fund 3761 will be increased for the amount of \$30,536.00, and the Saline County Treasurer shall transfer funds of \$15,268.00 from Fund 1000 County General to Fund 3761 – JAG Grant to upfront this reimbursable grant.

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

DATE: OCTOBER 17, 2022

APPROVED _____
JEFF AREY
SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST: _____
DOUG CURTIS
SALINE COUNTY CLERK

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

APPOINTMENT CONFIRMATION

IN THE MATTER OF AN APPOINTMENT
TO THE PUBLIC FACILITIES BOARD OF
SALINE COUNTY, ARKANSAS

WHEREAS, there exists a vacancy in the membership of the Public Facilities Board of Saline County, Arkansas ("Board"); and

WHEREAS, based on the terms set forth in A.C.A. § 14-137-108 (Act 142 of 1975), the Saline County Judge has recommended and appoints Michael Sims to the Board; and

WHEREAS, it is considered to be in the best interest of the Board and the citizens of Saline County that the Saline County Quorum Court confirm the appointment.

THEREFORE, in accordance with A.C.A. § 14-137-108 (Act 142 of 1975), **Michael Sims** is hereby confirmed for a term on said Board to expire on February 1, 2026.

JEFF AREY
SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

DATE: October 17, 2022

APPOINTMENT CONFIRMATION

IN THE MATTER OF AN APPOINTMENT
TO THE PUBLIC FACILITIES BOARD OF
SALINE COUNTY, ARKANSAS

WHEREAS, there exists a vacancy in the membership of the Public Facilities Board of Saline County, Arkansas ("Board"); and

WHEREAS, based on the terms set forth in A.C.A. § 14-137-108 (Act 142 of 1975), the Saline County Judge has recommended and appoints Harry Allen to the Board; and

WHEREAS, it is considered to be in the best interest of the Board and the citizens of Saline County that the Saline County Quorum Court confirm the appointment.

THEREFORE, in accordance with A.C.A. § 14-137-108 (Act 142 of 1975), **Harry Allen** is hereby confirmed for a term on said Board to expire on February 1, 2024.

JEFF AREY
SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

DATE: October 17, 2022

APPOINTMENT CONFIRMATION

IN THE MATTER OF AN APPOINTMENT
TO THE PUBLIC FACILITIES BOARD OF
SALINE COUNTY, ARKANSAS

WHEREAS, there exists a vacancy in the membership of the Public Facilities Board of Saline County, Arkansas ("Board"); and

WHEREAS, based on the terms set forth in A.C.A. § 14-137-108 (Act 142 of 1975), the Saline County Judge has recommended and appoints Sandra Carlisle to the Board; and

WHEREAS, it is considered to be in the best interest of the Board and the citizens of Saline County that the Saline County Quorum Court confirm the appointment.

THEREFORE, in accordance with A.C.A. § 14-137-108 (Act 142 of 1975), **Sandra Carlisle** is hereby confirmed for a term on said Board to expire on February 1, 2027.

JEFF AREY
SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

DATE: October 17, 2022

APPOINTMENT CONFIRMATION

IN THE MATTER OF AN APPOINTMENT
TO THE PUBLIC FACILITIES BOARD OF
SALINE COUNTY, ARKANSAS

WHEREAS, there exists a vacancy in the membership of the Public Facilities Board of Saline County, Arkansas ("Board"); and

WHEREAS, based on the terms set forth in A.C.A. § 14-137-108 (Act 142 of 1975), the Saline County Judge has recommended and appoints Stuart Norton to the Board; and

WHEREAS, it is considered to be in the best interest of the Board and the citizens of Saline County that the Saline County Quorum Court confirm the appointment.

THEREFORE, in accordance with A.C.A. § 14-137-108 (Act 142 of 1975), **Stuart Norton** is hereby confirmed for a term on said Board to expire on February 1, 2025.

JEFF AREY
SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

DATE: October 17, 2022