

## SALINE COUNTY QUORUM COURT AGENDA

SALINE COUNTY QUORUM COURT  
MINUTES  
OCTOBER 18, 2021

Approved  
11/15/2021  
- L Brown

The Saline County Quorum Court met on Monday, October 18, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in Courtroom #3 in the Saline County Courthouse. Proceedings were held in person. 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. Tammy Schmidt and Keith Keck were not in attendance.

County Circuit Chief Deputy Ragan Kyzer, Saline County Sheriff Rodney Wright, County Comptroller Angie Drummond, County Attorney Will Gruber, County Judge Administrative Assistant Vicki Hopkins, County Clerk Doug Curtis, and County Clerk Chief Deputy Lydia Brown were present.

Motion by Barbara Howell and seconded by J. R. Walters to approve the Minutes from the September 20, 2021 Quorum Court Meeting. Motion passed unanimously by voice vote.

REPORTS:

None.

OLD BUSINESS:

None.

NEW BUSINESS:

Proclamation: Proclamation in Support of Grayson Freel named 2021 – 2022 4-H State President, presented by Carlton Billingsley and Judge Arey.

Exhibit "A" and Exhibit "B": Motion made by Pat Bisbee and seconded by J.R. Walters to suspend rules and allow reading of the title only of Ordinances.

Motion made by Pat Bisbee and seconded by J. R. Walters to approve Ordinance Authorizing Delegation of District Court Delinquent Fine Collection. Roll call vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously. Ordinance 2021-23.

Motion made by Pat Bisbee and seconded by J. R. Walters to approve Ordinance Appropriating Funds Regarding VOCA Grant for Prosecuting Attorney's Office; Appropriating Funds for Sheriff's Office Reserves from County General (Amendment since Finance Committee Meeting). Roll call vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously. Ordinance 2021-24.

Exhibit "C": Motion made by J. R. Walters and seconded by Barbara Howell to suspend rules and allow reading of the title only of Ordinance.

Motion by J. R. Walters and seconded by Barbara Howell to approve Ordinance Appropriating Funds Regarding JAG Grant for Sheriff's Office. Roll call vote was taken. Motion passed unanimously. Ordinance 2021-25.

COMMENTS: Judge Arey provided a handout to the Quorum Court about creating a bike-strong community from Lane Shift and Metroplan. He also gave an update on Tammy Schmidt's husband who has been sick with Covid-19. Last, he mentioned that Keith Keck is still out of the county but should be returning soon.

Motion was made by Josh Curtis and seconded by Barbara Howell to adjourn. Motion passed by voice vote.

Meeting adjourned at 6:41 p.m.

**EXHIBIT "A"**

**APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE NO. 2021 - 26**

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

**"AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE 2021 SALINE COUNTY BUDGET ORDINANCE NO. 2020-46; TO APPROPRIATE AND TRANSFER FUNDS THEREFORE TO THE VARIOUS BUDGETS; AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES."**

**WHEREAS**, the Sheriff requests to transfer funds of \$10,000.00 from the County General Fund, Sheriff Department, Telephone line item to the Parts & Repairs line item for repairs & parts needed on the Sheriff's Department various vehicles (Article 1); and,

**WHEREAS**, the County Judge requests funds of \$390,847.38 be appropriated to Fund 3020 – 911 Emergency Fund, Capital Outlay – Machinery & Equipment line item to pay for the purchase of replacement equipment for the Saline County Emergency Communications Center, as per approval in Ordinance 2020-38. The County will be reimbursed by the City of Benton for their percentage in accordance with the Interlocal Agreement (Article 2); and,

**WHEREAS**, the County Judge requests funds of \$143,334.00 be appropriated to Fund 3020 – 911 Emergency Fund, Training & Education and Computer Software line items to pay for the purchase of Emergency Medical Dispatch software and the training of employees for the Saline County Emergency Communications Department to be prepared for implementation for the 2022 EMS contract. The County will be reimbursed by the City of Benton for their percentage in accordance with the Interlocal Agreement (Article 3); 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 the sum of \$10,000.00 is hereby transferred in the County General, Sheriff Department budget as follows:

<b>Transfer From</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Transfer To</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
1000.0400.3020	Telephone	1000.0400.2023	Parts & Repairs	\$10,000.00

**Article 2.** That the sum of \$390,847.38 is hereby appropriated in the 911 Emergency Fund budget as follows:

<b>Line Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
3020.0501.4004	Capital Outlay – Machinery & Equipment	\$390,847.38

**Article 3.** That the sum of \$143,334.00 is hereby appropriated in the 911 Emergency Fund budget as follows:

<b>Line Item</b>	<b>Description</b>	<b>Amount</b>
3020.0501.3101	Training & Education	\$19,358.00
3020.0501.3102	Computer Software	\$123,976.00

**Article 4.** Anticipated revenues for Fund 3020 will be increased for the amount of \$534,181.38.

**Article 5.** It is deemed necessary for the smooth operation of Saline County Government that this ordinance be approved.

DATE: NOVEMBER 15, 2021

APPROVED



JEFF AREY  
SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:



DOUG CURTIS  
SALINE COUNTY CLERK

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

**EXHIBIT "B"**

**EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 2021 - 27**

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

**"AN ORDINANCE ADOPTING A FEDERAL GRANT AWARD ADMINISTRATION POLICY FOR SALINE COUNTY, ARKANSAS AND DECLARING AN EMERGENCY."**

**WHEREAS**, Saline County, often, applies for and receives funding from federal grant awards, including the recently requested and received portion of the Coronavirus Local Fiscal Recovery Funds, established under the American Rescue Plan Act (ARP) of 2021; and,

**WHEREAS**, the Quorum Court of Saline County has found and determined that it is necessary and desirable to adopt a Federal Grant Award Administration Policy to ensure compliance with statutory and regulatory requirements for recipients of federal funding.

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

**Article 1.** That the "Saline County Federal Grant Award Administration Policy," a copy of which is attached hereto, is hereby approved and adopted as the policy of the county for the administration of federal grant awards.

**Article 2.** That a copy of the "Saline County Federal Grant Award Administration Policy" shall be filed in the office of the Saline County Clerk.

**Article 3. EMERGENCY CLAUSE.** 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: NOVEMBER 15, 2021

APPROVED



JEFF ARTY  
SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST:



DOUG CURTIS  
SALINE COUNTY CLERK

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

## **SALINE COUNTY FEDERAL GRANT AWARD ADMINISTRATION POLICY**

Saline County does not have a centralized grants department; therefore, it is the responsibility of each department obtaining a grant to care for and be familiar with all grant documents and requirements. If a grant is Federal, the department should immediately notify the County Comptroller for inclusion in the County's Single Audit.

For the purpose of this policy, "Program Director" applies to the individual within a given department who will be responsible for the grant. If no Program Director is named, the County Comptroller will serve the role of Program Director.

### **1. Grant Development, Application, and Approval –**

a. Approval – The point at which approval is required is determined by the requirements of the grant program. If the grant must be submitted by "an individual with authority," then the County Judge's approval is required prior to submitting the application. A copy of the application shall also be sent to the County Comptroller. If an award is granted, a copy of the agreement shall also be furnished to the County Comptroller. Electronic copies are preferable, but paper copies are acceptable.

Approval Exception – Grants administered through the County Judge's office with another Program Director may utilize procedures as determined by the County Judge, the Program Director, and any applicable laws, rules, or regulations.

b. Matching Funds – Grants that require cash local matches must be coordinated through the County Judge's office. At a minimum, funds must be identified within the existing budget to provide the match, or a budget adjustment will be required. Depending on the nature of the grant, there may also be some policy implications that will bear discussion.

*For example: Will the grant establish a level of service that cannot be sustained once the grant funds are depleted?*

c. Grant Budgets – Most grants require the submission of a proposed budget. The County Comptroller should review this portion of the grant request prior to submission.

Grant applications may also require other county employee review prior to approval. Specifically, the following individuals should review the grant and provide feedback prior to approval, if applicable. The Human Resources Director will need to be contacted regarding personnel projections. The Purchasing Specialist will need to be contacted regarding any bidding or advertising for services. Grants may require review from additional county employees on a case by case basis.

## 2. Grant Program Implementation –

- a. Notification and Acceptance of an Award – Official notification of a grant award is typically sent by a funding agency to the County Judge. However, the authorization to actually spend grant funds is given by the Quorum Court through the approval of an appropriation ordinance.
- b. Establishment of Accounts – The department that obtained the grant will provide the County Comptroller and Treasurer with notification of grant award to establish a fund for the grant. Ordinarily, this information will include a copy of a summary of the objectives of the grant, and a copy of the grant budget to be approved by the Quorum Court through ordinance.
- c. Purchasing Guidelines – All other Saline County purchasing and procurement guidelines apply to the expenditure of grant funds. The use of grant funds does not exempt any purchase from Saline County purchasing requirements. All typical paperwork and bidding requirements apply. All normal approvals apply. When in doubt, the Program Director should contact the County Comptroller for further assistance.

## 3. Financial and Budgetary Compliance –

- a. Monitoring Grant Funds – Departments may use some internal mechanism (such as a spreadsheet) to monitor grant revenues, expenditures and budgetary compliance, however, all such financial information will also be maintained by the County Comptroller.

The Financial Management Department maintains Saline County's official accounting system. Ultimately, the information in this system is what will be audited and used to report to governing boards, not information obtained from offline spreadsheets. Program Directors are strongly encouraged to use inquiries and reports generated by the Financial Management Department to aide in grant tracking. If any "off-system" accounting records are maintained, it is the responsibility of the Program Director to ensure that the program's internal records reconcile to the County's accounting system.

- b. Fiscal Years – Occasionally, the fiscal year for the granting agency will not coincide with the County's fiscal year. This may require adjustments to the internal budget accounts and interim financial reports as well as special handling during fiscal year-end close. It is the responsibility of the department head to oversee grant budgets within his/her department and to bring such discrepancies to the attention of the County Comptroller at the time the grant accounts are established.
- c. Grant Budgets – When the accounting structure for a grant is designed, it will include the budget that was prepared when the grant application was submitted. The terms of each specific grant will dictate whether any budget transfers between budgeted line



items will be permitted. In no case will the Program Director be authorized to exceed the total budget authority provided by the grant. If grant funds have not been totally expended by fiscal year-end, it is the responsibility of the Program Director to notify the County Comptroller that budget funds need to be carried forward to the new fiscal year, and to confirm the amounts of such carryforwards. This can be done during the County's normal annual budgeting process. Carryforwards of grant funds will be subjected to maximum allowable amounts/percentages based on the grant award agreement and/or the Uniform Guidance compliance supplement.

d. Capital Assets – Saline County is responsible for maintaining an inventory of assets purchased with grant monies. The County is accountable for the fixed asset listing and must make the lists physically available for inspection during any audit.

Acquisition or Disposal Notification – The Purchasing Specialist must be notified immediately of any sale of these assets. Customarily, the proceeds of the sale can only be used on the grant program that purchased them. In most cases, specific governing regulations can be found in the original grant. The individual department overseeing the grant will coordinate this requirement. All transactions that involve the acquisition or disposal of grant funded fixed assets must be immediately brought to the attention of the Purchasing Specialist.

#### 4. Record Keeping –

a. Audit Workpapers – Legislative Audit performs the annual County audit and examines all grants at the end of each fiscal year. When the County's annual federal expenditures are equal to or greater than \$750,000, the County will also have a Federal Single Audit performed by an outside audit agency.

b. Record Keeping Requirements – Grant record keeping requirements may vary substantially from one granting agency to another. Consequently, a clear understanding of these grant requirements at the beginning of the grant process is vital. The County Comptroller will maintain copies of all grant draw requests, and approved grant agreements (including budgets). Grant record retention requirements and County record retention policies will be followed for all Grant applications, reporting, and supporting documents.

Treasurer Office Monitoring – Individual grant draw requests will be forwarded to the Treasurer's Office to monitor incoming ACH payments and have the proper documentation to receipt those payments.

## **Uniform Guidance Compliance Supplement – Activities Allowed/Unallowed and Allowable Costs**

To ensure compliance, Saline County has implemented the following policies and procedures:

1. All grant expenditures will be in compliance with the Uniform Guidance, other Federal law, State law, County Government policy, and the provisions of the grant award agreement will also be considered in determining allowability. Grant funds will only be used for expenditures that are considered reasonable and necessary for the administration of the program.
2. Grant expenditures will be approved by the department head or elected official when the bill or invoice is received. The terms and conditions of the Federal Award, including allowable costs, will be considered when approving. The approval will be evidenced by the department head or elected official's signature. Accounts payable disbursements will not be processed for payment until the necessary approvals have been obtained.
3. Payroll costs will be documented in accordance with the Uniform Guidance, Federal law, state law, and County Government policy or ordinance. Specifically, compensation for personal services will be handled as set out in §200.430 and compensation for fringe benefits will follow §200.431 of the Uniform Guidance.
4. An indirect cost rate will only be charged to the grant to the extent that it was specifically approved through the grant budget/agreement.

## **Uniform Guidance Compliance Supplement - Cash Management**

To ensure compliance, Saline County has implemented the following policies and procedures:

1. Most of the County's grants are awarded on a reimbursement basis. When reimbursement is requested by outside agencies, funds are requested and received prior to reimbursement. Internal grants costs will be expended and disbursed prior to requesting reimbursement from the grantor agency. If Federal grant funds are received first, care will be taken in order to minimize the time elapsing between receipt of Federal funds and disbursement to contractors/employees/subrecipients according to §200.302 (6) of the Uniform Guidance.
2. Cash draws will be initiated by the County Comptroller or other grant designee under the County Judge, who will determine the appropriate draw amount. Documentation of how this amount was determined will be retained. Accounts payable claims and travel reimbursements will be handled in a manner consistent with the County's existing Accounts Payable and Travel policies and in accordance with §200.305 (payments) and §200.474 (travel costs) of the Uniform Guidance.

3. The physical draw of cash will be done after the request is presented, when allowable, and amounts are verified through the means prescribed by the grant agreement for other awards.
4. Supporting documentation or a copy of the cash draw paperwork will be filed along with the approved paperwork described above and retained for audit purposes.

### **Uniform Guidance Compliance Supplement - Eligibility**

To ensure compliance, Saline County has implemented the following policies and procedures:

1. Federal grants will only benefit those individuals and/or groups of participants that are deemed to be eligible.
2. Initial eligibility determinations will be made by the County Comptroller based on the grant award/contract. Sufficient documentation to support these determinations will be retained and made available to administration, auditors, and pass-through or grantor agencies, upon request. It is the department's responsibility to maintain complete, accurate, and organized records to support eligibility determinations.

### **Uniform Guidance Compliance Supplement – Equipment and Real Property Management**

To ensure compliance, Saline County has implemented the following policies and procedures:

1. All equipment will be used in the program for which it was acquired or, when appropriate, other Federal programs.
2. When required, purchases of equipment will be pre-approved by the grantor or pass-through agency. The Program Director or the County Comptroller will be responsible for ensuring that equipment purchases have been previously approved, if required, and will retain evidence of this approval. A copy of such evidence shall be provided for record retention to the County Comptroller.
3. Property/Equipment fixed asset listings will be maintained, a physical inventory shall be taken every two years, and an appropriate system shall be used to safeguard assets. Inventory records shall be maintained in the appropriate department of the grant for the life of the grant and/or the life of the fixed asset(s), and should be available for audit upon request.
4. When assets with a current per unit fair market value of \$5,000 or more are no longer needed for a Federal program, a request for written guidance shall be made to the grantor agency as to what to do with the property/equipment prior to sale or relocation.

The County shall abide with the requirements set out in §200.311 and §200.313 of the Uniform Guidance in this regard. If a sale will take place, proper procedures shall be used to provide for competition to the extent practical and result in the highest possible return. The County Purchasing Specialist should be contacted with regards to all disposals of such fixed assets.

#### **Uniform Guidance Compliance Supplement - Period of Performance**

To ensure compliance, Saline County has implemented the following policies and procedures:

1. Costs will be charged to an award only if the obligation was incurred during the funding period (unless pre-approved by the Federal awarding agency or pass-through grantor agency).
2. Compliance with period of performances requirement will be initially assigned to the Program Director. All accounts payable disbursements are subject to the review and approval of the Financial Management Department and the County Comptroller.

#### **Uniform Guidance Compliance Supplement - Reporting**

To ensure compliance, Saline County has implemented the following policies and procedures:

1. Reports will be submitted in the required frequency and within the required deadlines.
2. Reports will be completed using the standard forms (as applicable) and method of delivery (i.e., e-mail, website portal, postal service, etc.).
3. Regardless of the method of report delivery, a copy of the submitted report will be retained along with any documentation necessary to support the data in the report. The report will evidence the date of submission in order to document compliance with timeliness requirements. This may be done either physically or electronically.
4. Financial reports will always be prepared based on the general ledger using the required basis of accounting (i.e., cash or accrual). In cases where financial data is tracked outside of the accounting system (such as in spreadsheets or paper ledgers), this information will be reconciled to the general ledger prior to report submission.
5. Any report with financial-related data will either be prepared or reviewed by the County Comptroller and will have the appropriate review based on specific grant guidelines.
6. Preparation of reports will be the responsibility of the County Comptroller or other designee of the County Judge. All reports (whether financial, performance, or special)

must be reviewed and approved (as applicable) prior to submission. This will be evidenced by either physical signatures or electronic timestamps of approval.

7. Copies of submitted reports with preparer and reviewer signatures and data will be filed with supporting documentation and any follow-up correspondence from the grantor or pass-through agency. Copies of all such reports will be made available to administration, auditors, and pass-through or grantor agencies, as requested.

RESOLUTION NO. 2021 - 10

SALINE COUNTY QUORUM COURT

**A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE SALINE COUNTY JUDGE TO SUBMIT OF AN APPLICATION TO  
THE STATE OF ARKANSAS FOR BUILDING RESILIENT INFRASTRUCTURE AND COMMUNITIES  
GRANT FUNDS**

**WHEREAS**, the Saline County is applying for grant funds through the Building Resilient Infrastructure Communities ("BRIC") program through the Federal Emergency Management Agency ("FEMA"); and

**WHEREAS**, it is necessary for Saline County to meet certain conditions as part of the BRIC application requirements; and

**WHEREAS**, as a result of the FEMA Hazard Mitigation Planning activities, Saline County has identified and prioritized hazard mitigation needs.

**NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED** THAT THE QUORUM COURT OF SALINE COUNTY, ARKANSAS THAT:

Section I: Saline County Judge Jeff Arey is hereby authorized, on behalf of the Saline County Quorum Court, to apply to the State of Arkansas, Division of Emergency Management, for grant funds through the BRIC program.

Section II: Saline County Judge Jeff Arey is hereby authorized, on behalf of the Saline County Quorum Court, to expend funds to accomplish such community development disaster mitigation projects, if the BRIC grant is awarded.

THIS RESOLUTION adopted this 15<sup>th</sup> day of November, 2021

APPROVED: \_\_\_\_\_

JEFF AREY

SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_

DOUG CURTIS

SALINE COUNTY CLERK

**EXHIBIT "D"**

**EMERGENCY ORDINANCE NO. 2021 - 28**

**BE IT ENACTED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF SALINE COUNTY, STATE OF ARKANSAS, AN ORDINANCE TO BE ENTITLED: "AN ORDINANCE AMENDING ORDINANCE NO. 2015-41, SPECIFICALLY IN SUBSECTION G "SALARY DECREASES," OF THE SALARY ADJUSTMENTS PROVISIONS OF THE SALINE COUNTY SALARY ADMINISTRATION PROGRAM."**

**WHEREAS**, Saline County Ordinance No. 2015-41 set forth Saline County's Policies regarding its Salary Administration Program; and

**WHEREAS**, the Saline County Salary Administration Program, specifically in Subsection G, Salary Decreases, in the Salary Adjustments Section, sets forth Saline County's policies regarding salary adjustments and salary decreases; and

**WHEREAS**, there have now been several instances where Saline County employees have sought voluntary demotions, and, based on the existing policy, there must be an ordinance passed for the employee to maintain their existing pay; and

**WHEREAS**, the process for voluntary promotions is cumbersome and does not allow for cost of living adjustments ("COLA") increases; and

**WHEREAS**, there is a current need to amend Ordinance No. 2015-41, specifically Subsection G, Salary Decreases, in the Salary Adjustments Section of the Saline County Salary Administration Program, to provide the Saline County Human Resources Department to have additional flexibility regarding voluntary demotions and to allow for COLA increases for eligible employees.

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

**Article 1.** Section G "Salary Decreases" of the Saline County Salary Administration Policy shall be amended to read as follows:

1. The County will recognize two types of demotions that may necessitate a decrease in salary. The following two paragraphs outline the related policies to address these types of demotions:
  - a. An employee demoted as a result of poor performance and/or disciplinary action where the employee is transferred to a position with a lower range/grade than their current position will enter the new position with a pay rate at the minimum of the new position's salary range. If the Elected Official desires that the demoted employee be paid at a rate above the minimum, then the Elected Official may make the request to the JESAP Committee for review and approval and then forwarded to the HR Committee, Finance Committee, and Quorum Court for approval. The requested pay rate shall not exceed midpoint or budgeted amount, whichever is less. Any requests of pay in excess of the midpoint shall have supporting documentation and will be submitted to the JESAP

Committee for review and approval and then forwarded to the HR Committee, Finance Committee, and Quorum Court. The employee's pay shall not exceed the range/grade level maximum for the position.

- b. An employee demoted due to organizational re-adjustments or a voluntary demotion where the employee is transferred to a position with a lower range/grade than their current position will enter the new position with a pay rate between the new position's salary range minimum and its midpoint. In the occurrence that the employee held this position previously, the employee's pay will return to his or her previous pay in that range/grade level, including any eligible cost of living adjustments ("COLA"). No ordinance or approval, as set forth in (G)(2)(c), will be required, if requested by the HR Department, unless funds are not currently budgeted for the department or elected official.
- c. An Elected Official may desire to secure a pay level in excess of the midpoint based on County tenure and experience. Any request of pay in excess of the midpoint and supporting documentation will be submitted to the JESAP Committee for review and approval and then forwarded to the HR Committee, Finance Committee, and Quorum Court. The employee's pay shall not exceed the range/grade level maximum for the position.

**Article 3.** This ordinance shall be effective from and after passage and publication.

**Article 4.** 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 5.** An emergency is hereby declared to exist as these Salary Administration Policy changes are necessary, as employees would be ineligible to receive funds they would otherwise be eligible to receive, without immediate passage, thus, this ordinance shall be in full force and effect from and after its passage and approval.

DATE: November 15, 2021

APPROVED: 

JEFFAREY

SALINE COUNTY JUDGE

ATTEST: 

DOUG CURTIS

SALINE COUNTY CLERK

SPONSOR: J.R. WALTERS, J.P. District #12