

**ENERGY & PROPERTY COMMITTEE MEETING
SEPTEMBER 14, 2021 2 P.M. ANNEX BUILDING**

ATTENDANCE: Chairman Justice Molly Jackson, Justice Tobye McClanahan, Justice Rick Ash, Justice Harbans Mangat, Architect Aaron Ruby, County Clerk Janice Currie and Public Affairs Director Tom Henry.

1. The meeting was called to order by Chairman Justice Molly Jackson, who then invited Revival Architecture Architect Aaron Ruby to sit at the table and give an update to those present. The group also discussed using American Rescue Plan funds for needs at the Blytheville and Osceola Health Units as well as improvements to the HVAC at the Osceola Courthouse.

2. Mr. Ruby discussed a change order from CNI, reducing the cost by \$10,000, for the X-ray machine, not including the metal detectors from the Sheriff's Department, since they will be using the existing ones. He added that finances look good, "as of right now, we are less than we were on bid day." Mr. Ruby also said that CNI still estimates completion by the end of October, but added that COVID is still causing problems with both getting materials and manpower. Justice Molly Jackson informed the group that heat/air will be turned on September 23rd and that half the elevators have been installed, but are a couple of weeks from completion. Irrigation begins next week, for two weeks. Mr. Ruby added that they have gotten all of the trees (the previous landscape subcontractor had ordered them before backing out), but are still having trouble finding 244 boxwoods. Justice Rick Ash asked if an eternal flame would be a part of the final work and Mr. Ruby stated, "no eternal flame is going back in... we are keeping the markers, of course the grave, the tombstones, the markers that are there. But no eternal flame" and added that in addition to the expense, there was no gas line. Justice Jackson announced the latest pay app of \$354,000 and that the asphalt parking lot had been completed. She also stated that they were still installing the quarry tile, which was delayed due to COVID. Justice Jackson then suggested, despite not having a quorum, that \$2 million be appropriated for construction. The expense of moving back to the courthouse is not expected to cost more than currently budgeted. A short discussion was then held regarding a temporary request for covered shelter for drive up COVID testing as well as the possibility of using American Rescue Plan monies to possibly construct new health units for both Blytheville and Osceola. The group also discussed the possibility of using American Rescue Plan funds for the heating/air systems at the Osceola Courthouse.

3. Meeting adjourned.

Minutes submitted by: Tom Henry