

**VAN BUREN COUNTY QUORUM COURT**  
**JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS**  
**May 16th, 2024**

The Van Buren County Court met Thursday, May 16th, 2024, at the Van Buren County Courthouse Annex in Clinton, Arkansas for the regular monthly meeting, with Judge James presiding. Members of the Quorum Court attending were Justice of the Peace N. Brown, S. Brown, J. Bradford, M. Bradford, D. Holcomb, B. Page, E. Bass, V. Lemings, and M. Philips. Also in attendance was Attorney Carol Crews and Pam Bradford County Clerk.

**Next: PRAYER:** Given by J.P D. Holcomb

**Next: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE:** Recited by all, led by J.P M. Philips

**Next: ROLL CALL:** All present

**Next: AGENDA:** J.P N. Brown added an ordinance. Motion by J.P M. Philips seconded by J.P V. Lemings, all agreed.

**Next: MINUTES, TREASURER'S REPORT, APPROPRIATION ANALYSIS:**

J.P. M. Bradford made a motion to accept the Minutes, Treasurer's Report and Appropriation Analysis as printed. J.P. N. Brown seconded the motion. Judge James asked for any discussion there was none.

**Next: COUNTY JUDGE'S COMMENTS:** Judge James honored Mrs. Paula Smith. He read a lengthy article thanking the J.P's for all that they do and for all of their hard work.

**Next: COUNTY BOARDS/COMMITTEES ADDRESS THE COURT:** [None]

**Next: ELECTED OFFICIALS/DEPARTMENT HEADS ADDRESS THE COURT:** [None]

**Next: PUBLIC TO ADDRESS THE COURT**

**NEW BUSINESS:**

- A. NEXT: J. P B. PAGE READ AN APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ORIGINAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE #2023-54, THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR 2024, TO INCREASE THE ELECTION COMMISSION BUDGET #1000-109; After the reading of the**

Ordinance J.P. B. Page made a motion to adopt, seconded by J.P. E. Bass. Judge James asked for any discussion. There was none. The Ordinance was approved and given. **No. O-2024-15.**

**B. NEXT: J.P. N. BROWN READ AN APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ORIGINAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE #0-2023-54, THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR 2024, TO INCREASE THE PART-TIME SALARIES OF THE LIBRARY ASSISTANT/CATALOGING POSITION AND THE LIBRARY ASSISTANT POSITION AND TO TRANSFER MONIES WITHIN THE COUNTY LIBRARY BUDGET #3008-600 TO COVER COSTS.** After the reading of the Ordinance, J.P N. Brown made a motion to adopt, seconded by J.P D. Holcomb. Judge James asked for any discussion. J.P E. Bass asked, can the millage for the library stand this without the county's help? Library President David Emmerling stated that they have \$150,000 in line ended in 99. J.P N. Brown states that she had calculated what it would cost for the remainder of the year. J.P D. Holcomb stated that they went without an employee for a couple of months, there is a surplus there to cover it also not have an issue on the budget. The Ordinance was approved and given **No. O-2024-16.**

**C. NEXT: J.P M. PHILIPS READ A RESOLUTION TO DECLARE A VACANCY ON THE VAN BUREN COUNTY HOSPITAL BOARD OF GOVERNORS AND TO APPROVE THE APPOINTMENT IN ORDER TO FILL THE VACANCY.** After reading the Resolution, J.P. M. Philips made a motion to adopt, seconded by J.P N. Brown. Judge James asked for any discussion. Judge James stated Robert wanted to be present this evening, but was stuck at the airport. That he would be at next months meeting. All approved **No. R-2024-04.**

**TRANSFERS:** [None]

Judge James asked if anyone had questions, there was none.

A motion was made by J.P D. Holcomb to adjourn, seconded by all.

**Pam Bradford, Van Buren County Clerk**

# COUNTY ROAD AND EQUIPMENT REPORT

MAY, 2024

## MAINTENANCE:

We conducted a 20 ton blast at the Formosa Quarry.

End to end road grading and ditching is happening on the grader routes.

Road mowing is happening daily.

Working business as usual as inexpensively as possible to rebuild monetary resources from the recent disaster.

## GRANT PROJECTS:

The Rabbit Ridge/Bricky Road low water crossing grant has been approved. The Nature Conservancy is requesting more funding on our behalf. Currently, we have received \$75,000 from the Arkansas Unpaved Roads Project and \$300,000 from the Nature Conservancy. The total project price tag is right at \$1 million dollars. The county will match with in-kind labor, equipment, and product. We will also fund the relief pipes for the project and subsidize the purchase of the arch top crossings.

The Baker Lake Project is valued at \$600,000 dollars. A bridge and relief pipes will replace the current series of failing pipes. This project is currently in progress.

WE RECEIVED THE OYLER ROAD GRANT! We applied for the maximum amount of \$500,000.00. The project will consist of paving most of Oyler and chip/sealing the remaining portion as the county's matching portion. Total project price tag is valued at \$1.5 million. Base work will begin in late 2024 with pavement applied in 2025.

Lake Cliff Road Bridge Project – Federal Grant application submitted and looks promising. Total price tag of approx. \$1 million.

Scotland Bridge Project -- Federal Grant application submitted and looks promising. Total price tag of approx. \$1 million.

Archev Road Bridge Project – State and Federal Aid funded, County pays 2%. Total price tag of approx. \$1.5 million.

The Federal Infrastructure Program appears to have some extra money in it so I have applied for an off-program grant to build a new bridge at Shirley which would be constructed parallel to the current historic Shirley Train Bridge. Contrary to popular rumor, the county IS NOT entertaining even the thought of removing the historic structure. Traffic would move to the new structure and the old structure would remain in place for the historic value, pictures, etc. The value of this proposal is approximately \$2.5 million.

FEMA reimbursement for the declared disaster – Reimbursements can take a very long time to receive. I hope to receive \$150,000 - \$175,000. Governor Sanders approved the disaster on May 9 and VBC is listed as an approved county. We hope to receive the funds this calendar year.



## **VAN BUREN COUNTY SHERIFF**

**Sheriff Eric Koonce**

**P.O. Box 451**

**Clinton, Arkansas 72031**

**Telephone: 501-745-3838**

**Fax: 501-745-4898**

### **89 Total Incident Reports for April 2024**

#### **Misdemeanor:**

**Drug Violations - 1**

**Personal - 17**

**Property - 13**

#### **Felony:**

**Drug Violations - 0**

**Personal - 9**

**Property - 10**

**CID Call Outs - 5**

**Search Warrants - 4**

**Felony Affidavits - 6**



# Type Total Report

Print Date: 01-May-24

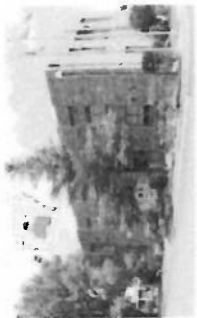
Print Time: 01:00:05

User Name: jwells

Incidents Created From: 01-Apr-24 00:00:00 To: 30-Apr-24 23:59:59 ; Unit Org: VAN BUREN.LAW.VAN BUREN CO SO; Unit(s): All; Source: All; Community: All

Unit Org	Event	Event Description	Type Count
VAN BUREN CO SO	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	8
VAN BUREN CO SO	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	6
VAN BUREN CO SO	THEFT OF PROPERTY	THEFT OF PROPERTY	6
VAN BUREN CO SO	TRAN	TRANSFER/TRANSPORT	36
VAN BUREN CO SO	TRF	TRAFFIC CONTROL	1
VAN BUREN CO SO	TRFC	TRAFFIC RECKLESS DRIVER	5
VAN BUREN CO SO	TS	TRAFFIC STOP	427
VAN BUREN CO SO	VERBAL DOMESTIC	VERBAL DOMESTIC	10
VAN BUREN CO SO	WARRANT	WARRANT SERVICE	68
VAN BUREN CO SO	WELFARE CHECK	WELFARE CHECK	22
<b>Type Count -VAN BUREN CO SO:</b>			<b>1289</b>

**Total Incidents: 1289**



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Civil Process for April 2024	Total to Serve	Total needs to be Served	Successful Service	Non-Served	Faxed from other Countied	Faxed other Agencies
Writ	5	0	5	0	0	0
Summons	38	4	25	9	0	0
Civilian Subpoenas	37	7	24	5	1	
L.E. Subpoenas	32	1	30	0		1
Protection Orders	16	3	9		4	
Notice of Hearing	1	0	0	1	0	0
Child Support/DHS Papers	4	1	1	2		
<b>Total:</b>	<b>133</b>	<b>16</b>	<b>94</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>1</b>