

N. Brown-motion
Roberson-2nd

VAN BUREN COUNTY QUORUM COURT

JOURNAL OF PROCEEDINGS

July 17, 2025

BOOK 2025 PAGE 43

Recorded in:

MINUTES Book

08/22/2025 09:02 AM

PAM BRADFORD

County Clerk

The Van Buren County Court met Thursday, July 17, 2025, at the Van Buren County Courthouse Annex in Clinton, Arkansas for the regular monthly meeting, with Judge James presiding. Members of the Quorum Court in attendance were Justice of the Peace N. Brown, S. Brown, B. Roberson, M. Bradford, B. Page, V. Lemings, R. Mays, E. Bass, P. Wellenberger, Pam Bradford County Clerk, and Carol Crews, Attorney also attended.

Next: CALL TO ORDER

Next: PRAYER: Given by V. Lemings

Next: PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE: Recited by all. Led by Paul Wellenberger

Next: ROLL CALL: All present

Next: AGENDA. A motion was made by M. Bradford and seconded by N. Brown to add two additional ordinances and approve the agenda with changes. All in favor.

Next: MINUTES, TREASURER'S REPORT, APPROPRIATION ANALYSIS: A motion was made by B. Roberson, and seconded by M. Bradford, to approve the minutes, treasures report, as well as the Appropriation Analysis Report, all in favor Judge James asked for any comments. There were none.

Next: COUNTY ROAD AND EQUIPMENT REPORT: [Attached]

Next: SHERIFF'S REPORT: Attached.

Next: COUNTY JUDGE'S COMMENTS:

Next: COUNTY BOARDS/COMMITTEES ADDRESS THE COURT: Van Buren County Election Commissioner Jon Matthews spoke on elections. Van Buren County Assessor Emma Smiley provided information regarding the appraisal year. Van Buren County Sherrif Eric Koonce informed the court of the upcoming mandatory PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) training for the sheriff's office employees.

NEW BUSINESS:

ORDINANCE:

PREA (Prison Rape Elimination Act) training for the sheriff's office employees was filed on 08/22/2025 09:02 AM

and recorded in

MINUTES Book 2025

PAM BRADFORD

County Clerk

VAN BUREN County, AR

Sheryl Tucker D.C.

- A. NEXT: J.P. B. ROBERSON READ AN ORDINANCE TO AMEND THE ORIGINAL APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE #2024-54, THE ANNUAL OPERATING BUDGET FOR 2025, TO INCREASE THE PROJECTED REVENUE AND APPROPRIATE \$67.23 INTO THE COUNTY GENERAL VOLUNTEER FIRE DEPARTMENT BUDGET#1000-502. After reading the ordinance J.P. B. Roberson made a motion to adopt, second by J.P. M. Bradford. Judge James explained that it is the county's statutory responsibility to provide workers compensation to the county's volunteer fire departments. The Ordinance was approved and given. **NO. O-2025-23**
- B. NEXT: J.P. B. PAGE READ AN ORDINANCE TO TRANSFER MONIES WITHIN THE ARKANSAS DEPARTMENT OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT (OEM) BUDGET FOR PERSONAL SERVICES #1000-500, TO CLEAN UP PAYMENTS OF COMP. TIME FOR THE OEM AND TO MOVE MONIES FROM THE COUNTY ROAD BUDGET #2000-200 AND APPORAITE IN THE OEM BUDGET 1000-500 TO CORRECT PAYMENTS FOR THE OEM'S DENTAL AND LIFE INSUREANCE FOR THE MONTHS OF JULY AND AUGUST OF 2025. After reading the ordinance J.P. B. Page made a motion to adopt, second by J.P. N. Brown. Judge James asked for any discussion. There was none. **NO. O-2025-24**
- C. NEXT: J.P. S. BROWN READ AN EMERGENCY ORDINANCE TO AUTHORIZE THE SALE OF TWO SHERIFF'S OFFICE VEHICLES TO THE CITY OF CLINTON TO APPROPRIATE THE FUNDS FROM THE SALE, TO DECLARE AN EMERGENCY, AND FOR OTHER PURPOSES. After reading the emergency ordinance J.P. S. Brown made a motion to adopt, second by J.P. N. Brown. J. P. Mays made a motion to amend in the ordinance to scratch the word real in front of property, seconded by J.P. Bradford. Judge James asked if there was any discussion, there was none. **NO. O-2025-25** J.P. Brown made a motion to acknowledge the emergency clause. Second by Bradford. All in favor.
- D. NEXT: J.P. LEMINGS READ AN EMERGENCY APPROPRIATION ORDINANCE TO APPROPRIATE MONIES INTO THE COUNTY HEALTH FUND #1002-300 FOR EMPLOYEE INSURANCE CLAIMS FOR THE LAST SIX MONTHS OF PAYMENTS FOR THE BUDGET YEAR 2025. J.P. B. Page asked if we knew this was going to happen. J.P. S. Brown explained affirmatively. J.P. V. Lemings asked when we would begin building on the monies in the fund. Judge James explained we have \$132,000.00 in the fund, and we will be able to begin building soon. V. Lemings made a motion to adopt the emergency ordinance, second by J.P. S. Brown. J.P. N. Brown made a motion to acknowledge the emergency clause, second by J.P. S. Brown. All in favor **NO. 2025-26**

RESOLUTION:

1. **NEXT: N. BROWN READ A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY TO APPLY FOR A GRANT ON BEHALF OF VAN BUREN COUNTY.** After reading the resolution, J. P. N. Brown made a motion to adopt the resolution, second by J.P. Bradford. The resolution was approved by all and given **NO. R-2025-09** Discussions regarding the current crusher ensued, with all questions answered satisfactorily by Judge James

The floor was then opened to the public to speak. Virginia Hall spoke regarding Animal Control.

A motion was made to adjourn, seconded by all.

Pam Bradford, Van Buren County Clerk

COUNTY ROAD AND EQUIPMENT REPORT

July, 2025

New this month:

The crew is working on the completion of the Oyler Road Project. Bids will be let for the grant funded pavement at the end of August. We expect the new asphalt to be laid by the end of October.

We are applying for a grant for a new cone-style crusher. This is a heavy lift and the odds are against us, but we are going to try! The total grant ask will be approx. \$1.5 million.

MAINTENANCE:

Trying to catch up on equipment repairs. Tariffs have created a bottleneck with the supply chain for many of our parts. When tariffs were being discussed, many supplies were hoarded before the tariffs were put into place creating a temporary supply shortage.

GRANT PROJECTS:

The Rabbit Ridge/Bricky Road low water crossing grant has been approved. The total value of this grant is just under \$1,000,000.00

Work is proceeding on the Oyler Road Grant. Base is still being applied for the grant to come behind us and pave as far as the grant funds will take the asphalt. The award to the county is \$500,000.00 with VBC providing match in the form of base rock, equipment, labor and gravel. Total project value is \$1,500,000.00.

Lake Cliff Road Bridge Project – Federal Grant application submitted and looks promising. Total price tag of approx. \$1 million. The feasibility study has been ordered.

Scotland Bridge Project -- Feasibility Study was completed. Waiting for further word. Federal Grant application submitted and looks promising. Total price tag of approx. \$1 million.

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

The Feasibility Study is begun on the Shirley Bridge Grant. The value of the new bridge will be approx. \$3 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, 2024 and VBC is listed as an approved county. After submitting all the required paperwork, we received a book for each impacted road to be completed. We are still waiting for the reimbursement.



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VAN BUREN COUNTY SHERIFF
Sheriff Eric Koonce

P.O. Box 451
Clinton, Arkansas 72031
Telephone: 501-745-3838
Fax: 501-745-4898

85 Total Incident Reports for June 2025

Misdemeanor:

Drug Violations - 4
Personal - 13
Property - 11

Felony:

Drug Violations - 4
Personal - 14
Property - 10

CID Call Outs - 8

Search Warrants - 2

Felony Affidavits - 13

Detention Statistics from 6/1/2025 to 6/30/2025

Agency	Booked			Released			Transferred		
	Male	Female	Unk	Male	Female	Unk	Male	Female	Unk
Van Buren County Sheriffs Office	42	14	2	34	23	2	2	0	0
Fairfield Bay Police Department	3	0	0	5	0	0	0	0	0
Clinton Police Department	3	0	0	3	0	0	0	0	0
Damascus Police Department	1	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Us Marshalls Office	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0
Totals:	49	14	2	44	23	2	2	0	0
				65			69		2



Type Total Report

Print Date: 01-Jul-25
Print Time: 01:00:16
User Name: jwells

Incidents Created From: 01-Jun-25 00:00:00 To: 30-Jun-25 23:59:59 ; Unit Org: VAN BUREN.LAW.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	ABND/HU/OPEN	ABANDONED/HU/OPEN	2
VAN BUREN CO SO	ACIC	ACIC QUERY	87
VAN BUREN CO SO	ANML	ANIMAL	22
VAN BUREN CO SO	ASSIST	ASSIST AGENCY	3
VAN BUREN CO SO	ATTENDED DEATH	ATTENDED DEATH	1
VAN BUREN CO SO	COURT	COURT	9
VAN BUREN CO SO	DISTURBANCE	DISTURBANCE	1
VAN BUREN CO SO	EXTRA PATROL	EXTRA PATROL	20
VAN BUREN CO SO	FS	STRUCTURE FIRE	4
VAN BUREN CO SO	FV	VEHICLE FIRE	1
VAN BUREN CO SO	LAW ALARM	LAW ALARM	19
VAN BUREN CO SO	LPS	LAW PUBLIC SERVICE	35
VAN BUREN CO SO	MED	EMERGENCY MEDICAL CALL	12
VAN BUREN CO SO	MISSING PERSON	MISSING PERSON	1
VAN BUREN CO SO	MOTORIST ASSIST	MOTORIST ASSIST	12
VAN BUREN CO SO	MVA	MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT	33
VAN BUREN CO SO	MVA WITH PI	MOTOR VEHICLE ACCIDENT WITH PERSONAL INJURY	2
VAN BUREN CO SO	PD	POLICE	176
VAN BUREN CO SO	PHYSICAL DOMESTIC	PHYSICAL DOMESTIC	10
VAN BUREN CO SO	PROPERTY CHECK	PROPERTY CHECK	3
VAN BUREN CO SO	PS	PUBLIC SERVICE	8
VAN BUREN CO SO	REPORT	REPORT	27
VAN BUREN CO SO	ROBBERY	ROBBERY	1
VAN BUREN CO SO	RUNAWAY	RUNAWAY	1
VAN BUREN CO SO	STOLEN VEHICLE	STOLEN VEHICLE	5
VAN BUREN CO SO	SUICIDE ATTEMPT	SUICIDE ATTEMPT	2
VAN BUREN CO SO	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	SUSPICIOUS PERSON	9
VAN BUREN CO SO	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	SUSPICIOUS VEHICLE	4
VAN BUREN CO SO	THEFT OF PROPERTY	THEFT OF PROPERTY	4

For Official Use Only



Type Total Report

Print Date: 01-Jul-25
Print Time: 01:00:16
User Name: jwells

Incidents Created From: 01-Jun-25 00:00:00 To: 30-Jun-25 23:59:59 ; Unit Org: VAN BUREN.LAW.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	TRAN	TRANSFER/TRANSPORT	28
VAN BUREN CO SO	TRF	TRAFFIC CONTROL	4
VAN BUREN CO SO	TRFC	TRAFFIC RECKLESS DRIVER	7
VAN BUREN CO SO	TS	TRAFFIC STOP	272
VAN BUREN CO SO	UNATTENDED DEATH	UNATTENDED DEATH	3
VAN BUREN CO SO	VERBAL DOMESTIC	VERBAL DOMESTIC	6
VAN BUREN CO SO	WARRANT	WARRANT SERVICE	51
VAN BUREN CO SO	WELFARE CHECK	WELFARE CHECK	21
Type Count -VAN BUREN CO SO:			906

Total Incidents: 906

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