

VAN BUREN COUNTY QUORUM COURT

RESOLUTION NO. 2006-6

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE QUORUM COURT OF THE COUNTY OF VAN BUREN, STATE OF ARKANSAS, A RESOLUTION TO BE ENTITLED:

A RESOLUTION AUTHORIZING THE COUNTY JUDGE AND THE COUNTY CLERK OF VAN BUREN COUNTY, ARKANSAS, TO ENTER INTO AN ADMINISTRATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE WHITE RIVER PLANNING AND DEVELOPMENT DISTRICT, INC.

WHEREAS: Van Buren County, Arkansas, intends to apply to the Arkansas Department of Economic Development (ADED) for an Arkansas Community and Economic Development Program grant. The funds will be used for the construction of improvements to the Van Buren County Memorial Medical Center; and

WHEREAS: Van Buren County requires assistance to identify and implement the regulations pertaining to the said grant; and

WHEREAS: It will be necessary for the County Judge and the County Clerk to implement the regulations pertaining to the said grant; and

WHEREAS: It will be necessary for the County Judge and the County Clerk to act in connection with the Administrative Agreement;

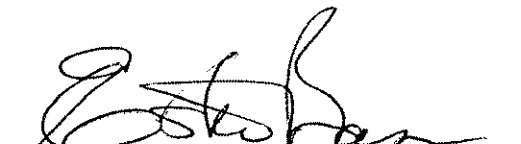
NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Quorum Court of Van Buren County hereby declares that the County Judge and the County Clerk be authorized to execute an agreement with the White River Planning and Development District, Inc., to provide administrative services to the County. Such costs and contract formats to be pre-approved by ADED and all such costs to be paid by ADED from the grant.

Dated: 3-16-, 2006

APPROVED:


Robert Bramlett, County Judge

ATTEST:


Ester Bass, County Clerk

Ozark Health Medical Center is a county-owned facility, and although the dilapidated facility was on the verge of being closed, Van Buren County residents fought to keep their community hospital. On October 5, 2000 they passed a one-cent sales tax for a new facility. This project is one of the first in the country to build a hospital campus specifically designed to be a critical access hospital and was built with community generated funds. Ozark Health's mission is to provide "Outstanding Healthcare for All - Always", however, without this expansion, Ozark Health is not able to accomplish this mission.

Van Buren County and Ozark Health, Inc. is seeking funds from the Arkansas Department of Economic Development (ADED) Community Development Block Grant Application for General Assistance and Innovative Projects to complete a second phase of inpatient rooms in its rural critical access hospital (CAH). The second phase will turn a 3,172 square foot shelled-in-area into seven (7) additional in-patient rooms. The rural CAH is county owned and the application will meet the acute health care needs of low to moderate income (LMI) individuals as well as the economic viability of the communities served. While both Van Buren and Searcy Counties have made momentous investments in the first phase of the project and have committed a significant match (\$150,000.00) to this project, the need for CDBG funding is great, because the counties do not have any additional resources to commit. The impact of the project both in terms of the health of the population served and in the economics will be monitored. Both process and outcome measure will be documented and reported to ADED.

The amount of funding to be requested from ADED is \$200,000.00. A public hearing was held on March 9, 2006, to discuss the project. The county must be the applicant because ADED only awards funds to cities or counties.