

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA

RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSION SS:

At a regular session of the County Commission in and for the aforesaid County and State, at the Wees Annex, on the 20th day of February, 2025 at 1:30 p.m.

Present: Randolph County Commission President David Kesling and Randolph County Commissioners, Chris Siler and Chris See

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Kesling

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MINUTES:

Commissioner See moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting that was held on February 6, 2025, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

Sheriff Elbon gave a report regarding his deputies. He said Deputy Brian Roy is home now and is doing outpatient physical therapy. He said Deputy Beverly has found out by his doctors that he has a traumatic brain injury and had to be put on light duty. This could be for 30-60-90 days, not sure yet. He said he has one deputy out on a 16- month military deployment and will return in the Spring of 2026 and he has another deputy leaving in March for military deployment. He said Captain Swisher is retiring in July and he is in the process right now of cleaning up the evidence room. Sheriff Elbon said they do 24 hour coverage and since he is short on manpower he wanted to give the Commission a heads up that he will be coming to talk to them later about hiring someone part time. Commissioner Siler said they need to see numbers to justify hiring more deputies. He said the Sheriff has a problem with giving the Commission numbers and not being transparent with them. Sheriff Elbon said he gave the Commission numbers but will not give them individual Deputies numbers. Sheriff Elbon said he would bring it forth and the other two Commissioners can decide. Commissioner Siler said the Commission has given the Sheriff almost 1 million dollars since Commissioner Siler has been here. He said they gave the Sheriff more money than any other elected official. He said they have given him anything he has asked for.

911/OEM Director, Mike Miller appeared before the Commission. He introduced James Conner from Mon Power Company. Mr. Connor handed out his cards and said he covers 10 counties. He said he is the go to person for the Cities and Counties. He said we could call him for outages, bills etc. Mike Miller said last Sunday there was high winds and all the Fire Departments dealt with power outages and cutting trees out of the roads. He said they lost power to the Bickle's Knob tower and it was hard to get to it. He said about 1,100 customers were without power. Mr. Connor said he checked and today everyone in the County has power.

Andy Teter from West Virginia Emergency Management/IFLOWS gave a presentation to the Commission regarding a flood warning system. He said they have the only State flood warning system in the Country. He said it is maintained by State employees. He said each County has their own dashboard. He said there are alarms on streams and these send notices to OEM/911 Centers. He said we are not in the radar zone because it is pointing up and missing us. He said they are going to put up another tower in Clarksburg that will show our County better. He said it will be an app to show the detailed weather conditions. He gave some figures to the County of what it would cost them to join if they are interested. Commissioner Kesling said this is something we can look at during the budget season.

Erin Golden, Director of North Central Community Corrections dropped off a report to the Commission.

Commissioner Kesling reported on the new Courtroom. He said they were supposed to have Court today but it was cancelled because Judge Wilfong was ill. He said the contractors are back today and are finishing up wood work and trim. He said they are going to work this weekend to try to get it all done. He said the next Court hearing is February 26th. He said they are using temporary tables and chairs right now but the furniture has been ordered. He said there have been a lot of things crop up here at the

end. He said there is now one entrance to the James Cain Annex which is the front door by the Sheriff's Office. He said there is a new camera system and there are apps on the phone for access.

Commissioner Kesling said they are still in talks with Silling Architects on the 50 year plan for the courthouse complex.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Kesling announced the next meeting of the County Commission will be held on March 6, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. in the Wees Annex.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF ALIGN HR SERVICE AGREEMENT

Commissioner Kesling said the Commission has been contacting AlignHR out of Clarksburg with questions and every time they do they receive a bill. He said they would like to do a yearly contract with them and they would pay per project. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the contract with AlignHR. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF VALLEY HEAD PUBLIC LIBRARY BOARD MEMBER RESIGNATION AND REPLACEMENT

(Commissioner Kesling said Jill Fanning has resigned from the Valley Head Public Library Board and her term was set to expire on July 1, 2026. The Valley Head Public Library Board recommends Joyce Barnett as her replacement. Commissioner See moved to accept the resignation of Jill Fanning and appoint Joyce Barnett effective immediately and her term will expire on July 1, 2026. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF NEW HIRE IN ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Randolph County Assessor, Lance Marcum appeared before the Commission. He said he would like to hire Avery Evick as a full-time appraiser in his Office. He will be paid from the Assessor's Valuation Fund. Assessor Marcum said he would like Mr. Evick to be working on Monday February 24, 2025 with a starting wage of \$13.85 per hour. He will be placed on a 90 day probation period. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the hiring of Mr. Avery Evick as a full-time appraiser for the Assessor's Office and he will begin working on February 24, 2025 with a starting wage of \$13.85 per hour and he will be placed on a 90 day probationary period. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF LEASE AGREEMENT WITH KIESS FAMILY ENTERPRISES FOR PARKING LOT AND FRONT PORTION OF BUILDING (See copy attached)

Commissioner Kesling said this is to do with getting another Circuit Court Judge. He said they are remodeling the James Cain Annex for the new courtroom but it is not big enough to hold jury selection. He said the Supreme Court mandates a space for jury selection and it has to be at a nearby location to the courthouse. He said they spoke to Jeffrey Kiess about using the front portion of the Old IGA building and parking lot. They have come up with a lease agreement and it would be \$6,525.00 monthly and they would sign a 1 year lease. He said the building could be used for other things such as large meetings for the County when not being used for jury selection. Commissioner See said they discussed using the Phil Gainer Center but it was too far away. Commissioner Kesling said Court Security can be used to hand scan people as they come in and the Judge would enter through another door. He said the County maintenance staff would do cleaning of the building. Commissioner See moved to approve the lease agreement with Kiess Family Enterprises starting on March 1, 2025 for one year. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FUNDING REQUEST FOR GIRLS STATE

Commissioner Siler said the Commission received a letter from the American Legion Auxiliary, Carol Erickson, asking for a donation to send girls from our County to Girls State at Davis and Elkins College

Campus. He said we have done this in the past. He said he would like to send 5 girls which would be \$1,500.00. Commissioner Kesling said the money is tight in courthouse contractual right now. He thinks they could send 3 girls. Commissioner Siler moved to approve \$900.00 out of courthouse contractual to send 3 girls to Girls State. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FUNDING REQUEST FOR RUN FOR IT

Angie Pase from Tucker Community Foundation appeared before the Commission. She said this year's Run For It event will be held on September 27th in Davis. She said they start registration in April. She said this program has been going on since 2007. She said they have a 9 County service area. She said this is a unique event to help non-profit organizations raise funds. She said in 2013 the Randolph County Commission started funding this event. She said last year the Commission pledged \$6,000.00 and that is what they are asking for again. She said Randolph County challenges other Counties. She said they are looking forward to continue to grow and work with Randolph County. She said the total raised for Randolph County is \$532,876.00 which is for financial support for civil, charitable, and non-profit organizations within Randolph County. She invited all the Commissioners to come to Davis for the event. Commissioner Siler said they do a great job. Commissioner Kesling said he appreciates what they do for the non-profit organizations. Commissioner See said he has been to the event several times and even helped give out the awards. He said it is a big event. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the funding request in the amount of \$6,000.00 to the Tucker Community Foundation and that is to be taken out of Hotel/Motel Tax funds. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

FINAL SETTLEMENTS:

Commissioner See moved to approve the (2) Final Settlements, as submitted.

Ralph Edward McMillon Doris Gamble Wood

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

BUDGET REVISIONS: (1) (See attached copy)

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve a State Budget Revision in the amount of \$20,460.00 to increase contractual services due to an insurance recovery. Commissioner Kesling voted yes, Commissioner Siler voted yes, Commissioner See voted yes. Motion passed

DIVISION OF PROPERTY/ERRONEOUS ASSESSMENTS:

Commissioner Siler moved to approve the division of property and erroneous assessments, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

DISTRESSED PROPERTIES: None

FIRE FEE ADJUSTMENTS:

Commissioner Kesling said they have reached out to some other Counties regarding the Fire Fee Ordinance and might make some revisions to ours.

Commissioner Siler moved to approve the 28 fire fee adjustments, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Siler said there are some commercial fire fees that need approved but we are going to hold off on them until we can review further.

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Commissioner Siler moved to pay the bills, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

ADJOURN THE MEETING:

Commissioner See moved to adjourn the meeting. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Attest: _____

Lease proposal to Randolph County Commission for 4500 sq ft of former IGA Building

Lessor being: Kiess Family Enterprises

Lease being: Randolph County Commission

Space to be occupied: Front portion (facing south) of the former IGA Building measuring 95' wide X 45' in depth with an enclosed foyer measuring approximately 10' x 12.5"

Total of 60 parking spaces, 35 including within lease and 25 overlap onto reserved area.

Price: \$17.40 per sq ft including utilities and 35 permanent non-exclusive parking spaces and additional overlap parking for 25 additional spaces, totaling \$6,525. monthly.

Responsibilities of Lessor: (Kiess Family Enterprises)

- 1) Lessor is to pay all utilities and fire fees associated with leased premises.
- 2) Lessor will maintain and promptly make all necessary repairs and replacements to the leased premises, including, the foundation, structure, exterior walls, exterior windows, exterior doors, roof, ceilings, gutters, downspouts, plumbing, paint, carpet, electrical, light fixtures, bulbs, HVAC and associated filters and other building systems, parking areas, driveways, and sidewalks.
- 3) Lessor shall also maintain parking lot with update sealing and stripping on an as needed basis.

Responsibilities of Leasee (Tennant):

- 1) Leasee (tenant) shall provide snow and ice removal of entire parking area to include all Sidewalks and overlap parking area.
- 2) Provide all janitorial and extermination services required by tennant.
- 3) Maintain at its sole expense it's personal property, equipment, and trade fixtures within The premises.
- 4) Provide full indemnification of any liability resulting any and all accidents occurring on said premises.

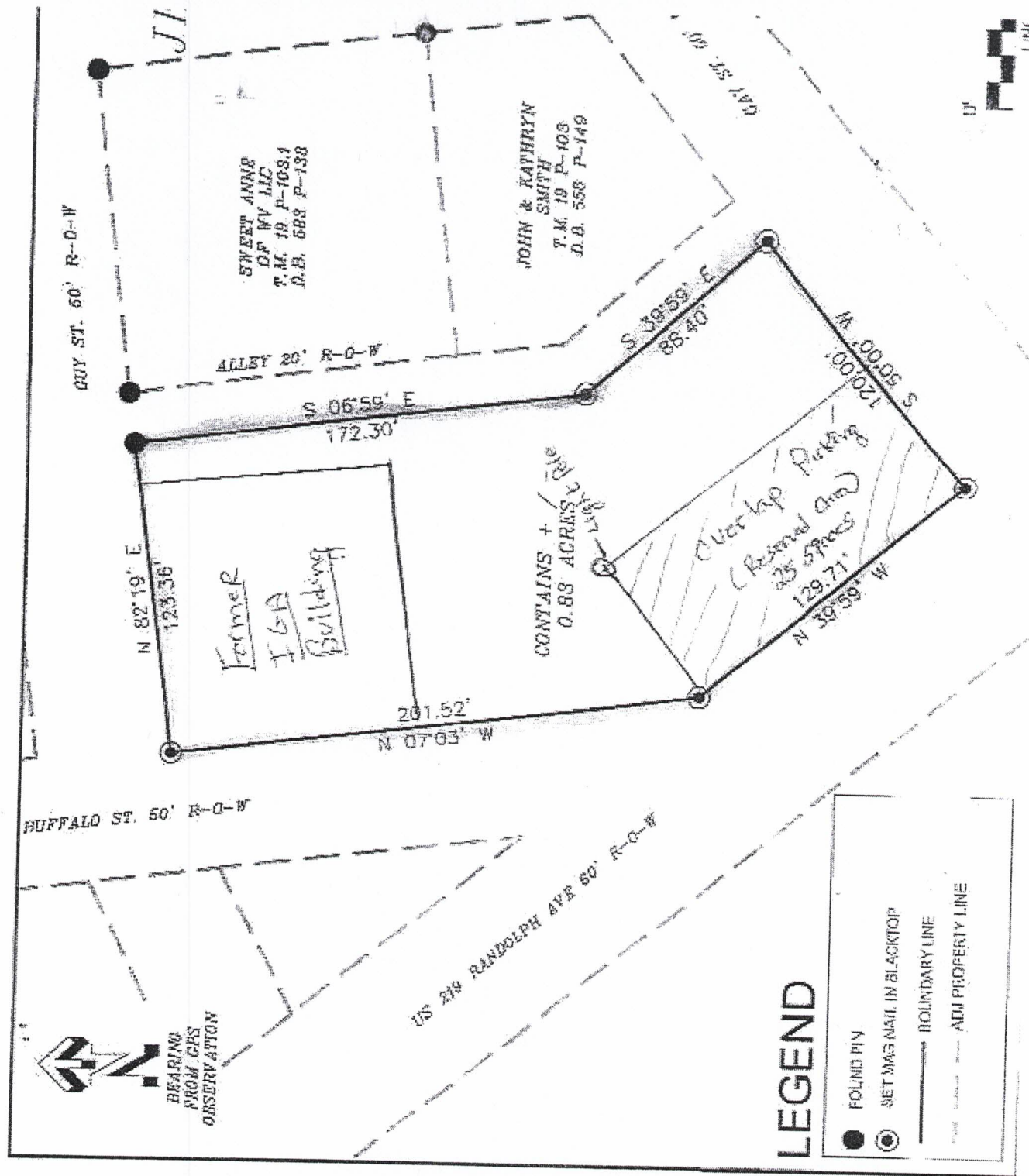
Special exceptions:

- 1) Kiess Family Enterprises reserves the use of the entire parking lot on weekends for the sole purpose of providing fund raising space to **ONLY** local non-profits, Randolph County Schools and athletic fund raising activities, and charitable organizations. Such activities may include: chicken burns, car washes, parking space rental during Forest Festival weekend, etc. This to occur only when County Commission Offices are closed.

- 2) It is further understood that not included within this lease is an area measuring 60' in width and 130' in length fronting on Randolph Avenue and Northerly fronting Gay Street, being the southwestern portion of the parking lot. This area is reserved by Kiess Family Enterprises for future development purposes. However, overlap parking is granted upon this reservation at the sole cost of snow and ice removal for as long as Kiess Family Enterprises are not utilizing it for development purposes. Plat depicting this reservation will be provided as an attachment to lease.

Sincerely,

Jeffrey C Kiess
304-642-5956



Randolph County Commission

STATE BUDGET REVISION

2/20/2025

Reason for Revision: Insurance Reimbursement

REVENUES:

ACCOUNT NUMBER	Account Name	PREVIOUSLY APPROVED AMOUNT	CHANGE		REVISED AMOUNT
			INCREASE	DECREASE	
001-382-90-5	Insurance Recovery-Other		\$20,460.00		

EXPENDITURES:

ACCOUNT NUMBER	Account Name	PREVIOUSLY APPROVED AMOUNT	CHANGE		REVISED AMOUNT
			INCREASE	DECREASE	
001-424-2-30.00	Courthouse Contracted Serv		\$20,460.00		

Total: \$20,460.00

2-20-2025

DK moved

DK yes

C-Siler yes

C-see yes motion passed