

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 6th day of March, 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 special meeting for the Board of Review and Equalization that was held on February 3, 2025, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner See moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting that was held on February 20, 2025, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

911/OEM Director, Mike Miller appeared before the Commission. He reported that they lost power on March 5, 2025 to the Bickles Knob tower due to power lines being down going up the mountain. He said they got it restored that evening. He said he has more employees talking about leaving to take employment elsewhere due to the wages. He said the roof is leaking again on the 911 Center and he has called the company to come back. He said the hot water tank at the 911 Center has completely quit working now and is leaking so they are in the process of replacing it. They have ordered new ceiling tile to replace the tiles that has been damaged. He said the gate to the front of the building has quit working and they are in search of someone to repair it. He said they have sent information to the Prosecuting Attorney's Office regarding the flooding in the Dailey area near the Burnt Bridge.

Kurt Gainer from the Randolph County Emergency Squad appeared before the Commission. He said the run volumes are on track the same as last year, 11 ambulances are up and running, 35 staff with 4 vacancies.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Commissioner Kesling said the Commission recently received a letter from Patrick Morrissey informing them that the Justice Assistance Grant program has been awarded \$30,000.00. These funds can be used to employ one or more prevention resource officers.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Kesling announced the next meeting of the County Commission will be held on March 27, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. in the Wees Annex. The change in meeting date is because they have to get the budget in by March 28th so they are moving the meeting so they can incorporate it all. The Opioid Committee meetings are now being held quarterly. The next meeting for that will be on June 19, 2025.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION FROM THE ELKINS-RANDOLPH COUNTY TOURISM CVB

Anne Beardslee, Samantha Peet and Alana Schoonover appeared before the Commission. Ms. Beardslee said they started in 2006 and became a Visitor's Bureau in 2018. Ms. Peet said they use social media and have had 427,000 page views on their website. She said they have an active blog page and an annual holiday page. She said Randolph County is featured in many prominent magazines and next month in WV Living magazine a story will appear about Randolph County. She said this is a premier arts destination. Ms. Beardslee said strong relationships are important and they serve on 7 boards. She said they work closely with several organizations. She said hospitality and tourism doesn't end when they

leave the depot. She said every dollar someone spends circulates 6 times throughout the County before it leaves. Ms. Schoonover said the ramps and rails festival will be held April 26, 2025. They have several vendors coming and there will be train rides that day. Ms. Beardslee said because of the Commission they can reach their goals. Commissioner Kesling said it's a good partnership. He said they bring people in so that puts money into the Hotel/Motel Tax that they can use for other organizations also. He said they are very appreciated. Commissioner See said keep up the good work.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FUNDING REQUEST FROM HIGHLANDS TRAIL FOUNDATION

Karen Carper, President of the Highland Trails Foundation appeared before the Commission. She said the Highland Trails Foundation was founded in 1995 and she has been the President on and off since then. She said they have received a \$200,000.00 Transportation Alternatives grant by the West Virginia Division of Highways to support a project which spans 19 miles of rail-trail from Elkins to Parsons. The grant requires a \$50,000.00 cash match. They can come up with \$25,000.00 and have received donations from other organizations and the City of Elkins for an additional \$15,000.00. They still need another \$10,000.00 and that is what they are asking the Commission for today. She said they need to work on the surface of the trail because it is no longer ADA approved. She said they need to replace the wooden posts which have rotted and replace them with plastic posts. She said they need to work on the Kiosk's because they look bad and the roofs are deteriorating. She said since COVID trails are really big and bicycle tourists are good tourists. She said once the project is completely done it would go all the way to Thomas. Commissioner See moved to approve the funding request from the Highland Trails Foundation in the amount of \$10,000.00 and that is to be taken out of Hotel/Motel Tax funds. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION AND FUNDING REQUEST FROM THE ELKINS ROTARY CLUB

Hoy Ferguson appeared before the Commission on behalf of the Elkins Rotary Club. He said the Club will be having the Rotary International Festival on May 17, 2025 at Elkins town square. He said the local restaurants will pick a different theme and make food, there will be cornhole, Irish road bowling etc. He said they want to raise \$35,000.00 that will go to the County schools and libraries. He said they would like to request \$3,000.00 from the Commission. He said they are selling raffle tickets for \$50.00 per ticket. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the funding request from the Elkins Rotary Club in the amount of \$3,000.00 and that is to be taken out of Hotel/Motel Tax funds. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

MANPOWER PRESENTATION FROM RANDOLPH COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Chief Deputy, Brad Sharp and Deputy Bryan Talkington appeared before the Commission. They presented a power point presentation to the Commission regarding the manpower situation with the Randolph County Sheriff's Department. Deputy Sharp said they only have 8 deputies that are patrol deputies that are used for calls for service. He said there are 3 deputies that are patrol supervisors, 3 deputies that are administrative supervisors, 3 deputies that are prevention resource officers and 1 deputy that is with the Mountain Region Drug and Violent Crime task force. That is a total of 18 deputies. He said back between 2015 and 2020 they had 13 patrol deputies. He said the Sheriff's goal is to have 24 hour coverage but it is very hard when they are short-handed. He explained that 1 deputy is out due to an injury, 1 deputy is on light duty because of an injury, 1 deputy is out on Military leave and won't be back until sometime in 2026 and another deputy is getting ready to be deployed until sometime in 2026. He said Deputy Swisher is getting ready to retire possibly in July of this year. He said they would definitely benefit from having some part time help. He discussed the contract work that the deputies have been doing at Wal-Mart and said it was researched through the Ethic Commission and other offices are doing it. He said the wages and benefits are reimbursed to the County. The deputies do this on their own time when they are not on duty. Commissioner Kesling said they will talk more about this when they do the budget.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF WV ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
RESOLUTION FOR ENERGY EFFICIENT WINDOWS FOR THE MAIN COURTHOUSE (See copy attached)

Commissioner Kesling said this is Resolution to apply for a grant for new windows for the main courthouse. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the Resolution, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF WV ENERGY EFFICIENCY AND CONSERVATION BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM
RESOLUTION FOR CAMP PIONEER ENERGY EFFICIENCY (See copy attached)

Commissioner Kesling said this is the same thing as the previous one but for Camp Pioneer. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the Resolution, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FUNDING REQUEST FROM AMERICAN LEGION POST 29 FOR BOYS STATE

Commissioner Siler read a letter the Commission received from the American Legion Post 29 asking for funding to send male students from Randolph County to Boys State at Jacksons Mill. The cost is \$350.00 per student. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the funding request from the American Legion Post 29 to send 3 Juniors to Boys State for the amount of \$1,050.00 and that is to be taken out of Courthouse Contractual funds. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FUNDING REQUEST FOR THE JOHN BALLANTYNE JUNIOR GOLF PROGRAM

Commissioner Kesling said they received a letter from Mary Snelson from the John Ballantyne Junior Golf Program requesting funding for the program. He said this is something they have done in the past. Commissioner See moved to approve the funding request in the amount of \$1,500.00 and that is to be taken out of Hotel/Motel Tax funds. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF DATES TO MEET WITH ELECTED OFFICIALS TO DISCUSS THEIR BUDGET PROPOSALS

Commissioner Kesling said the Commission has started the budget process and have received the elected official's preliminary budgets. He said they have to figure out the revenue first and want to take care of the staff first. He said PEIA has increased and with a family plan that costs the County \$21,924.00 per year per employee. He said the County pays 100% of insurance for County Employees. He said they want to meet with the elected officials March 18th & 19th and have to have everything approved and submitted by March 28, 2025.

FINAL SETTLEMENTS:

Commissioner See moved to approve the (5) Final Settlements, as submitted.

Jack Brady

Edna June Skinner

Lorren Blaine Sturms

James D. White, Sr.

Brandon Leslie Wilfong

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

BUDGET REVISIONS: (3) (See attached copies)

Commissioner See moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision for the Sheriff's Office to increase contract services in the amount of \$2,600.00. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner See moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision for the Sheriff's Office to increase Jailer Uniforms and Supplies in the amount of \$1,900.00. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner See moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision for the Assessor's Office for increase in Assessor Extra Help in the amount of \$2,500.00. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

DIVISION OF PROPERTY/ERRONEOUS ASSESSMENTS:

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

DISTRESSED PROPERTIES: None

FIRE FEE ADJUSTMENTS:

Commissioner Siler moved to approve the 33 fire fee adjustments, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Commissioner See 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: _____

Randolph County Commission



Commissioners

David L. Kesling

Chris See

Christopher Siler

RESOLUTION

The **Randolph County Commission** (WV) met on March 6, 2025 with a quorum present and passed the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the **Randolph County Commission** hereby certifies that it has legal authority to apply for and administer funds through the **WV Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG Federal Award ID: DE- SE0000207.0000)**, that a resolution has been duly passed as an official act of the applicant's governing body, authorizing the filing of the application on February 28, 2025, including all understandings and assurances contained therein, and directly authorizing **David Kesling, Commission President**, the person identified as the official county representative of the applicant to plan, budget, apply, receive and administer funds, and to provide such additional information as may be required pursuant to provisions of the WV Courthouse Facilities Improvement Authority.

Project: Energy Efficient Windows Main Courthouse

Brenda Wiseman

Randolph County Clerk

Randolph County Commission



Commissioners

David L. Kesling

Chris See

Christopher Siler

RESOLUTION

The **Randolph County Commission** (WV) met on March 6, 2025 with a quorum present and passed the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the **Randolph County Commission** hereby certifies that it has legal authority to apply for and administer funds through the **WV Energy Efficiency and Conservation Block Grant Program (EECBG Federal Award ID: DE- SE0000207.0000)**, that a resolution has been duly passed as an official act of the applicant's governing body, authorizing the filing of the application on February 28, 2025, including all understandings and assurances contained therein, and directly authorizing **David Kesling, Commission President**, the person identified as the official county representative of the applicant to plan, budget, apply, receive and administer funds, and to provide such additional information as may be required pursuant to provisions of the WV Courthouse Facilities Improvement Authority.

Project: Camp Pioneer Energy Efficiency

Brenda Wiseman

Randolph County Clerk

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	
		In House Budget	Revision	MARCH 6, 2025			
1		REVENUES:					
2							
3			PREVIOUSLY APPROVED				
4	Account Number	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	INCREASE	DECREASE	REVISED	
5							
6							
7							
8		TOTAL INCREASE / (DECREASE) REVENUES:		\$0.00	0		
9							
10		EXPENDITURES:					
11			PREVIOUSLY APPROVED			REVISED	
12	ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	INCREASE	DECREASE	AMOUNT	
13	001-404-2-12.00	Sheriff Printing	\$25,000		\$1,500.00		
14	001-404-2-30.00	Sheriff Contract Services	\$4,500	\$1,500.00			
15							
16	001-404-2-14.00	Sheriff Travel	\$1,400		\$100.00		
17	001-404-4-59.00	Sheriff Equipment	\$650	\$100.00			
18							
19	001-404-2-30.00	Sheriff Contract Services	\$4,500	\$1,000.00			
20	001-404-2-22.00	Sheriff Dues & Subscriptions	\$2,200		\$1,000.00		
21							
22							
23							
24							
25							
26		TOTAL INCREASE / (DECREASE) EXPENDITURES:		\$2,600.00	\$2,600.00		
27	3-6-2025						
28	CS see moved						
29	CS see yes - PK - yes - CS later yes						
30	Move to line to pay for previously contracted services and equipment purchases						

A	B	C	D	E	F	G	
		In House Budget	Revision	MARCH 6, 2025			
1		REVENUES:					
2	Account Number	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	INCREASE	DECREASE	REVISED	
3							
4							
5							
6							
7							
8		TOTAL INCREASE / (DECREASE) REVENUES:				0	
9				\$0.00			
10		EXPENDITURES:				0	
11							
12		PREVIOUSLY APPROVED					REVISED
13	ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	AMOUNT	INCREASE	DECREASE	AMOUNT	
14	001-703-2-21.00	Jail Training	\$3,500		\$1,700.00		
15	001-703-3-45.00	Jailer Uniforms	\$4,000	\$1,700.00			
16	001-703-4-59.00	Jail Equipment	\$3,000		\$200.00		
17	001-703-3-41.00	Jail Supplies	\$1,500	\$200.00			
18							
19							
20							
21							
22							
23							
24							
25							
26	3-6-2025	TOTAL INCREASE / (DECREASE) EXPENDITURES:				\$1,900.00	\$1,900.00
27	C see mould						
28	C see yes						
29	PK yes	Move to line in order to pay for Uniforms					
30	C siter yes						

(IN-HOUSE OR STATE) BUDGET REVISION

2024-2025

REVENUES:

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	PREVIOUSLY APPROVED		DECREASE	REVISED AMOUNT
		AMOUNT	INCREASE		
TOTAL INCREASE / (DECREASE) REVENUES:		0			0

EXPENDITURES:

ACCOUNT NUMBER	ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION	PREVIOUSLY APPROVED		DECREASE	REVISED AMOUNT
		AMOUNT	INCREASE		
001-406-1-03-00	Assessor Wages	198,581		2,500	193,081
001-406-1-09-00	Assessor Extra Help	6,000	2,500		8,500
TOTAL INCREASE / (DECREASE) EXPENDITURES:			2,500	2,500	

3-6-2025
 Csee - moved
 Reason for Revision: Cover for overtime in extra help line (extra help completed)
 Csee yes
 DK - yes
 C siler - yes