

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 27th 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 regular meeting that was held on March 6, 2025, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

Rhett Dusenberry passed out guidance informational piece to the Commission regarding getting funding for projects in Fiscal Year 2026. He said there could be no guarantee of projects getting funded.

Sheriff Elbon reported that two of his Deputies are now out on military deployment and Deputy Beverly is back to full duty.

911/OEM Director, Mike Miller appeared before the Commission. He reported that on Saturday March 15th Pickens Fire Department had a large brushfire and had several other fire departments assisting due to power lines down. He said on Sunday March 16th Mon Power experienced outages due to the high winds and 743 customers were without power due to the storms that moved through our area. He reported that Micrologic came and fixed the issue with the gate to the front of the 911 building. He said they filled all the propane tanks on the generators at the tower sites and they were also inspected and diesel fuel was topped off to the generator at the 911 Center.

Erin Golden, Director of North Central Community Corrections, appeared before the Commission. She said there are currently 99 participants on the program and the program has saved the County \$1,263,500.16 in regional jail bills so far, this fiscal year. She gave an extensive report on the finances of the program and what the main drugs people are using now in the Community. She said they have had a total number of 2,534 participants on the program since it started. She said 61.5% have successfully completed the program and have not re-offended.

Commissioner Kesling reported that the BCM Audit firm has completed the Audit for the County for Fiscal Year ending June 30, 2024. He said they found 3 minor things that need worked on but other than that it was a good clean Audit.

Commissioner Kesling said they will be signing the Lease at the end of the meeting with Kiess Family Enterprises for the Lease of the old IGA Building and parking lot.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Kesling announced the next meeting of the County Commission will be held on April 3, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. in the Wees Annex.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF 2025/2026 COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS GRANT APPLICATION

Erin Golden, Director of North Central Community Corrections appeared before the Commission and provided them with the grant application. She said this year's grant has definitely taken a toll on her. She said there has been changes in Administration and therefore a lot of changes on how to do the

application. She said she prepared 2 versions. She said she is requesting \$178,613.00 from the Grant which would make the cash match for the County of \$76,548.00. She said they have given them \$100,000.00 for the last 4 years and that is probably what they will get again this year. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the Grant application for North Central Community Corrections for 2025/2026, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF COURT SECURITY FUND GRANT PROGRAM 2026 RESOLUTION

Commissioner Kesling said Peggy Ross is applying for the Court Security Grant through the WV Division of Administrative Services/ Justice and Community Services Court Security Fund Grant Program 2026. This is a Resolution that needs sent in with the grant application. Commissioner See moved to approve the Resolution for the Court Security Grant application, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF COURT SECURITY MANPOWER RESOLUTION

Commissioner Kesling said this is another Resolution that needs sent in for the Court Security Grant that states that sufficient manpower will be used to operate and manage all equipment and other items requested through the grant funds. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the Court Security Manpower Resolution, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF NEW HIRE FOR ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Seth Pratt appeared before the Commission on behalf of Assessor, Lance Marcum. He said Assessor Marcum would like to hire Justin Bibey as a full- time appraiser. He said Mr. Bibey has been approved by the Property Valuation Training and Procedures Commission as this is the fund he will be paid through. Assessor Marcum would like Mr. Bibey to begin working on Monday March 31, 2025 with a starting wage of \$13.85 per hour and he will be placed on a 90- day probation period. This will be a fully benefited position. Commissioner See moved to approve the hiring of Justin Bibey as a full-time appraiser in the Randolph County Assessor's Office beginning on Monday March 31, 2025 with a starting wage of \$13.85 per hour with full benefits and he will be placed on a 90-day probation period. This position is to be paid out of the Property Valuation funds. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF NEW HIRES FOR 911 CENTER

911/OEM Director, Mike Miller appeared before the Commission. He said he has two positions that he needs approved for today. He said they conducted interviews and are waiting on the results of the drug tests. He said the first one is Sylvia Carpenter and he would like to hire her as a telecommunication trainee. This is a full-time benefited position with a probationary period of 12 months. Her starting wage would be \$13.00 per hour and he would like her to begin working on April 14,2025 and his current budget will cover her wages.

Commissioner Siler moved to hire Sylvia Carpenter as a full-time telecommunication trainee with a starting wage of \$13.00 per hour to begin working on April 14, 2025 pending a negative drug test. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Mike Miller said the second person he would like to hire is Brandan White as a telecommunication trainee. This is a full-time benefited position with a probationary period of 12 months. His starting wage would be \$13.00 per hour and he would like him to begin working on April 14, 2025 and his current budget will cover his wages.

Commissioner Siler moved to hire Brandan White as a telecommunication trainee with a starting wage of \$13.00 per hour to begin working on April 14, 2025 pending a negative drug test. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF NEW HIRE FOR SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff Elbon appeared before the Commission. He said he just wanted to let the Commission know that they have opened up the testing for entry level Deputy to fill a vacant spot he has. He said the testing

will be in April. He said when Swisher retires that will open up another spot. He said he is trying to use some part time guys and Sharp and Swisher are going back on rotation to keep 24- hour coverage going.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FOLDING MACHINE PURCHASE FOR ASSESSOR'S OFFICE

Seth Pratt appeared before the Commission on behalf of the Assessor's Office. He said their office sends out large volumes of mail several times a year. He said they would like to purchase a folding machine to help with that. He presented the Commission 3 estimates. The lowest estimate was from Whitaker Brothers in the amount of \$14,499.00. Commissioner Kesling moved to approve the purchase of the folding machine for the Assessor's Office in the amount of \$14,584.00 which also includes non-dock liftgate services since we do not have a dock. He said this is to be paid out of fund 038. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MOUNTAIN STATE FOREST FESTIVALS USE OF THE COURTHOUSE LAWN

Commissioner Kesling said this is something we do every year. He said they received a letter from Heidi Bray, Executive Director of the Mountain State Forest Festival. He said they will set up the Hospitality Tent mid-week in front of the main courthouse and they are also requesting five parking spaces behind the Court House for catering staff and workers. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the request from the Mountain State Forest Festival to use the Courthouse Lawn for the festival. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PROPOSED BUDGET FOR FISCAL YEAR 2026

Commissioner Kesling said they have worked these past several weeks with the County Clerk's Office and Sheriff's Office and with Melinda Lott from the Commission Office and all the elected officials. He said they have a proposed budget of \$10,540,798.00. He said there has been a 14% increase in PEIA. He said the County pays 100% of the PEIA Insurance for every employee. He said for people with a family plan it went up by \$3,000.00 a year. He said because of the PEIA increase, they are unable to provide raises this year to the employees. He said they have made no cuts to any outside services. Commissioner Kesling said once this is approved today it has to be submitted by the County Clerk's Office to the WV State Auditor's Office by tomorrow. Commissioner See said he appreciates everyone that helped out. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the proposed budget for FY 2026 as presented. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

FINAL SETTLEMENTS:

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

John Kenneth Daniels

Clifford Thomas Goddin

Bryan Oneil Johnston

Judith Ann Lanham

Donald Lee Rice

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

BUDGET REVISIONS: (7)

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision for the Sheriff's Office to increase Sheriff contracted services in the amount of \$1,500.00. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision for the Assessor's Office to increase Assessor's dues and subscriptions line in the amount of \$1,100.00. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision for the Sheriff's Office for increase in Law Enforcement FICA, Medicare, Retirement and Wages in the amount of \$9,540.00. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision for the Sheriff's Office to increase Sheriff Training in the amount of \$6,000.00. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision for the Prosecuting Attorney's Office to increase Other Fringe Benefits line by \$350.00. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision for the Sheriff's Office to increase the equipment line in the amount of \$4,500.00. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve a State Budget Revision for the Sheriff's Office to increase Law Enforcement Auto Maintenance line by \$780.00. Commissioner Kesling voted yes, Commissioner See voted yes, Commissioner Siler voted yes. Motion passed

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 28 fire fee adjustments, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

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

Commissioner Kesling signed the Lease with Kiess Family Enterprises. This lease was reviewed by Prosecuting Attorney Michael Parker. There will be an invoice sent monthly and the lease will be paid out of Account 308 for the remainder of the year. The lease amount was included in next years budget to be paid directly from there.

ADJOURN THE MEETING:

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

Attest: _____