

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 3rd day of April, 2025 at 1:30 p.m.

Present: Randolph County Commission President David Kesling and Randolph County Commissioner, Chris See. Commissioner Chris Siler was absent.

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 27, 2025, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

Commissioner Kesling reported that in the Cain Annex they have a new security system because of the new Courtroom. This has limited the access to the public to the front doors for entrance. The Commission has also restricted it for the employees to Monday thru Friday 7:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. and on Saturdays and Sundays from 8:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Commissioner Kesling said the Commission received a Thank You letter from Anne Beardslee with the CVB and also one from Mary Snelson with the youth golf club.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Kesling announced the next meeting of the County Commission will be held on April 15, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. in the Wees Annex. He also announced that the Opioid Committee will meet on April 15, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. in the Wees Annex.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PROCLAMATION FOR NATIONAL CRIME VICTIMS RIGHT WEEK

Mindy Boggs, Victim Services Coordinator for the Randolph County Prosecuting Attorney's Office, appeared before the Commission. She said this Proclamation is to proclaim the week of April 6-12, 2025 as Crime Victims' Rights Week in Randolph County, West Virginia. She said Kinship is the foundation of victim advocacy, inspiring trauma-informed care that meets survivors where they are. She said they have provided services to 64 new victims so far this year. Commissioner Kesling read the Proclamation out loud. Commissioner See moved to approve the Proclamation, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER MOVING REGULAR MEETING FROM APRIL 17<sup>TH</sup> TO APRIL 15<sup>TH</sup> TO COINCIDE WITH LAYING THE LEVY RATE

Commissioner Kesling said the Commission is going to move the next regular meeting from April 17<sup>th</sup> to April 15<sup>th</sup> because they are required to meet on April 15<sup>th</sup> to Lay the Levy Rate. He said the Levy rate will not be raised.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FUNDING REQUEST FOR HOOKED ON FISHING

Owen Peet appeared before the Commission on behalf of the Board of Directors for Randolph County Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs. He said the event will be held on May 10, 2025 at the Phil Gainer Community Center in Elkins. He said the event is free for families to come. He said last year they had more than 1,000 people come through the doors. He said they are requesting \$5,000.00 from the Commission to help with fishing poles and other prizes to be given away. He thanked the Commission

for their past support. Sheriff Elbon said they participate every year and the Deputies are there to give away prizes and they really enjoy it. Mr. Peet said more and more kids come every year. Commissioner Kesling said the Commission has been a partner in this for quite a while. Commissioner See said it is a good thing for the kids and whole families go. Commissioner See moved to approve the funding request from Randolph County Hooked on Fishing Not on Drugs in the amount of \$5,000.00 and that is to be taken out of Hotel/Motel Tax Funds. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FUNDING REQUEST FROM THE TYGARTS VALLEY LIONS CLUB FOR TYGARTS VALLEY GRADUATION

Steve Currence appeared before the Commission on behalf of the Tygarts Valley Lions Club. He said this is the 38<sup>th</sup> year of having the graduation party. He said it is one safe night for the kids. He said they usually have about an 85% participation rate. He said they are asking the Commission for help to give the kids a good night. Commissioner See moved to approve the funding request from the Tygarts Valley Lions Club in the amount of \$2,000.00 and that is to be taken out of Courthouse Contractual Funds. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FUNDING REQUEST FOR KIWANIS FOR ELKINS HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

Lisa Eason, President of Elkins Kiwanis Club appeared before the Commission. She said this will be their first time hosting the after- graduation party. She said the Kiwanis was contacted and asked to do it and they said yes. She said this will be the 40<sup>th</sup> year for the party which began in 1985 after a tragic death of a student at a party after graduation. She said they already have some games ready but still need more donations to purchase prizes. She said each senior will receive a \$125.00 gift and throughout the night they will have chances to win more prizes. She said they are also making Hoodies for the students. Commissioner See said he is glad they took it over, the Junior Women's Club did it for years. Commissioner See moved to approve the funding request from the Elkins Kiwanis Club in the amount of \$2,000.00 and that is to be taken out of Courthouse Contractual Funds. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FUNDING REQUEST FOR THE KUMP HOUSE

Heather Biola, Director of the Kump Education Center appeared before the Commission. She said they need to repair the roof and gutters that have been damaged by ice and snow over the last 100 years at the Kump House. She said they can get a grant from the WV Historic Preservation Office for \$24,000.00 but they have to match it with \$24,000.00. She said they have raised \$16,000.00 but still need \$8,000.00 more. Commissioner Kesling said the Kump House is not only a landmark for Elkins but also Randolph County. He said it is a beautiful spot. Commissioner See moved to approve the funding request from the Kump Education Center in the amount of \$8,000.00 and that is to be taken out of Hotel/Motel Tax Funds. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FUNDING REQUEST FOR THE ELKINS GOLD STAR MEMORIAL

Commissioner Kesling said the Commission received a letter from the American Legion H.W. Daniels Post #29 and the Rotary Club of Elkins, District 7545. He said they are asking for financial support for the Elkins Gold Star Families Memorial Monument. The amount they are requesting from the Commission is at least \$5,000.00. They need \$20,000.00 to complete the project. Commissioner See moved to approve the funding request from the American Legion and Rotary Club in the amount of \$5,000.00 and that is to be taken out of Hotel/Motel Tax Funds. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FUNDING REQUEST FOR MEALS ON WHEELS

Commissioner Kesling said the Commission received a letter from Rhonda Coffman, Coordinator and Financial Officer for Meals on Wheels of Randolph County, Inc. He said the letter says this program has served the community for over 50 years providing meals to members of this community aged 60+ or disabled adults. He said Davis Medical Center provides the meals and the meals are delivered by a team of 40+ dedicated volunteers. Commissioner Kesling said the Commission budgets \$5,000.00 every year for this program. He said they are asking for \$7,500.00 this year. He said they can do a budget revision to add the extra money into that line. Commissioner See said it is a good service and for some

people that is the only people they see. Commissioner See moved to approve the funding request from Meals on Wheels of Randolph County in the amount of \$7,500.00 and that is to be taken out of the Meals on Wheels line in the budget. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF EHRLICH COMMERCIAL PEST MANAGEMENT MAINTENANCE AGREEMENT FOR PROSECUTING ATTORNEY'S BUILDING

Commissioner Kesling said this is maintenance agreement with Ehrlich to provide pest control in the Prosecuting Attorney's Building. Commissioner See moved to approve the maintenance agreement, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF DIGITAL SOUP DURESS SYSTEM ANNUAL CONTRACT

Commissioner Kesling said this is the yearly contract the Commission does with Digital Soup for the duress system. The amount of this contract is \$1,437.60. Commissioner See moved to approve the annual contract with Digital Soup in the amount of \$1,437.60, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF UNITED WAY'S UNITED FOR KIDS HYGIENE DRIVE FOR 2025 TOTE PLACEMENT IN THE RANDOLPH COUNTY COURTHOUSE

JoLynn Powers, Regional Engagement Director of Tygart Valley United Way appeared before the Commission. She said every year they do a Hygiene Drive for kids in Randolph County. She said last year they had 4,000 donations. She said they placed at tote at the Randolph County Courthouse last year but did not receive any donations at all. She said she would like to change that. She would like to distribute flyers to all the offices in the courthouse in hopes of generating donations. She said lice kits are the most expensive item that is needed. Discussion followed and it was agreed to put the tote in the main Courthouse building. Commissioner See moved to allow the United Way to place a tote for the Hygiene Drive for Kids in the main courthouse lobby. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

MOVE TO ACCEPT RECOMMENDATION OF REQUEST FOR DISMISSAL OF OPTUM DEFENDANTS

Commissioner Kesling said this is in regard to the Opioid lawsuit that the Commission is involved in. He said they received a letter from Fitzsimmons Law Firm which represents the County Commission asking for authority to dismiss one of the defendant groups, Optum, from the lawsuit. Commissioner See moved to accept the recommendation of Fitzsimmons Law Group and dismiss the Optum defendants from the lawsuit. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

FINAL SETTLEMENTS:

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

Golden H. Day

Sarah Jean Markley

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

BUDGET REVISIONS: (12)

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve a State Budget Revision to move funds to Meals on Wheels in the amount of \$7,500.00. Commissioner Kesling voted yes, Commissioner See voted yes, Commissioner Siler was absent. Motion passed

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve a State Budget Revision to move unused funds to Courthouse Contractual line in the amount of \$11,250.00. Commissioner Kesling voted yes, Commissioner See voted yes, Commissioner Siler was absent. Motion passed

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve a State Budget Revision to increase Courthouse Insurance line in the amount of \$121.48. Commissioner Kesling voted yes, Commissioner See voted yes, Commissioner Siler was absent. Motion passed

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve a State Budget Revision for the Sheriff's Office to increase Wages, FICA, Medicare and Retirement lines in the amount of \$816.55. Commissioner Kesling voted yes, Commissioner See voted yes, Commissioner Siler was absent. Motion passed

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve a State Budget Revision for the Sheriff's Office to increase Law Enforcement FICA, Medicare, Retirement and Wages in the amount of \$9,540.00. Commissioner Kesling voted yes, Commissioner See voted yes, Commissioner Siler was absent. Motion passed

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve a State Budget Revision for HOFNOD donation in the amount of \$3,805.00. Commissioner Kesling voted yes, Commissioner See voted yes, Commissioner Siler was absent. Motion passed

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve a State Budget Revision for the Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$21,780.00 to increase Law Enforcement Wages, FICA, Medicare and Retirement. Commissioner Kesling voted yes, Commissioner See voted yes, Commissioner Siler was absent. Motion passed

Commissioner See moved to approve an In- House Budget Revision for the Sheriff's Office to increase professional services line in the amount of \$2,000.00. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner See moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision for the Sheriff's Office to increase the contingency line in the amount of \$5,000.00. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner See moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision for the Sheriff's Office to increase Jailer Uniforms line in the amount of \$250.00. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner See moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision for the Sheriff's Office to increase supplies in the amount of \$15,050.00. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner See moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision for the WVU Extension Office in the amount of \$2,000.00 to increase contracted services. 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 Kesling moved to approve the (9) 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: \_\_\_\_\_