

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSION SS:

At a regular meeting of the Randolph County Commission held in and for the aforesaid County and State, at the James F. Cain Court House Annex, on the 15th day of February, 2018 at 1:30 p.m.

Present: Michael Taylor, President of the Randolph County Commission and Chris See and Mark Scott, Commissioners thereof.

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Taylor

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Arden Swecker appeared before the Commission. He thanked the Commission for working to get the sign at Beverly on Files Creek Road that says not suitable for large trucks. He appreciates their efforts to get that done. Commissioner Taylor said it was a combination of support from different government entities. He said he hopes it alleviates the problem.

MINUTES:

Commissioner See moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting that was held on February 1, 2018, as submitted.

All yes -- Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

Sheriff Brady reported that they are back to working on the jail with the inmate work crew from Huttonsville Correctional Center. He said they are still doing the demo work on the inside of it to get it down to the basic structure. He said they are trying to clean up around the jail. He said once it is down to the basic structure they will stop and take a look at it and go from there. He plans to take the fence down at the back of the jail and auction off the items that are stored back there. He said then they will be able to open it up for parking. Discussion followed about putting some of the items online to be sold.

Rhett Dusenberry said Calhoun County just lost a vehicle and cannot afford to buy another one. He said he talked to the City of Elkins about donating a vehicle to them and if Sheriff Brady has one to get rid of they could really use it. Sheriff Brady said there are no cruisers to be sold right now. These are vehicles that have been seized. He said from now on they will search the vehicle and then have it towed at the owner's expense to their lot.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Taylor announced that the next meeting will be held on March 1, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. He said the budget packets will be handed out to the elected officials and department heads next week and then the budget meetings will be held March 8th and 9th and those meetings are open to the public.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

CONSIDER FUNDING REQUEST FOR AUGUSTA FESTIVAL IN FY BUDGET 18-19

Beth King, Director of Augusta Festival and Myles Center for the Arts, appeared before the Commission. She said this will be the 45th year for the Augusta Festival. This is a 7 week event in which they teach arts, crafts and have concerts etc. She said their festival has been used as a model for others throughout the State of West Virginia. She said last year 700 people attended full day events and 200 people attended evening events. They have a large scholarship program and last year they gave out 119 scholarships. Ms. King said the Augusta Festival participants have contributed a lot to the County financially because they stay in hotels/motels and eat at local restaurants. Commissioner Taylor said the Commission will meet in March to work on the budget and they will take her request under consideration at that time.

COUNTRY ROADS TRANSIT REPORT/REQUEST FOR FUNDING IN UPCOMING BUDGET YEAR FOR TRANSIT AND SENIOR CENTERS

Laura Ward, Director of the Randolph County Senior Center, appeared before the Commission. She said she comes every year to report to the Commission about their investment in Country Roads Transit. She said this will be the 11th year that Country Roads Transit has been in service. Last year there were 17,435 rides given in Randolph County. She said 47% were seniors, 17% were disabled and 36% were non seniors and not disabled. They have two vans that run a loop seven times a day and are willing to make changes to the route as needed. She said people that have no other form of transportation really appreciate their service. Those of us who drive don't understand. She said they are going to try to do a route from Mill Creek to Elkins soon to see how that works out. She said they are open Monday through Friday from 8:00 to 4:00. Mrs. Ward said the Randolph County Senior Center is getting ready to celebrate their 50th anniversary and they will be having a celebration on March 3, 2018 from 10:00 to 2:00. She said at 11:30 there will be luncheon and program and she invited everyone to attend. Commissioner Taylor asked if they still need the same amount as last year which was \$30,000.00 and she said yes.

CONSIDER FUNDING REQUEST FROM OUR TOWN FOR THE UPCOMING CAR SHOW

Commissioner Taylor said this item is tabled. The representative will be here at the March 1st meeting.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF REQUEST FROM TYGART VALLEY LIONS CLUB FOR APPROVAL TO SERVE BEER/WINE AT TWO UPCOMING EVENTS

Jonathan Kyle from the Tygarts Valley Lions Club appeared before the Commission. He said he is the current treasurer and long time member of the club and said there were a few other members in attendance also. He said the Tygarts Valley Lions Club is one of the largest in the State. He said they are the area's largest non-profit supporter of youth in the south Randolph County area with annual contributions of \$50,000.00 to the community. They do scholarships, safe graduation lock-ins, give money to the schools for athletics and band. They give money for eye exams and glasses for people. He said their two largest fundraisers are the great giveaway which will be on June 9th in Beverly and which this will be the 30th year for it and the rifle rally which will be on March 3rd at the Randolph County Armory and this will be the 10th year for that. He said the purpose of his visit today is to request that the Commission endorse the two fundraisers and to provide a letter of support for them to give to the ABC Commission to get their day permits for those two events.

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the request from the Tygarts Valley Lions Club for a letter of support for their two upcoming events.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FUNDING REQUEST FROM RANDOLPH COUNTY LIBRARIES

Commissioner Taylor said a couple of meetings ago the Commission heard a presentation from a representative for the Randolph County Libraries in which they asked for some additional funding. They need this additional funding to be able to meet the grant match requirements. He said they have researched it and found that they can use Hotel/Motel Tax funds because this is for the promotion of the arts. Commissioner Scott explained without this funding they can't receive the full amount of funding from their grants.

Commissioner See said he doesn't want them to have to shut down because the libraries are very vital. Commissioner Scott moved to approve the funding request in the amount of \$20,000.00, and that is to be divided between the five libraries with each getting \$4,000.00, and that is to be taken out of Hotel/Motel Tax funds.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL TO PUT OUT BID FOR COURTHOUSE ROOF REPLACEMENT/ ALL BIDS WILL NEED TO BE RECEIVED BY MARCH 15, 2018

Commissioner Taylor said last year there were some emergency repairs done to the Courthouse roof and they were waiting on spring time to do more work to it. The Commission received a grant for ½ of the roof replacement for this fiscal year and then they will apply for the other ½ next fiscal year. The next step is to put the work out for bid. Commissioner See moved to put out for bids for ½ of the Courthouse roof replacement and all bids must be sealed and returned by March 15, 2018.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL TO DRAFT A LETTER TO PUBLIC TRANSPORTATION REGARDING ROAD SIGNAGE IN BEVERLY

Commissioner Taylor said this was already taken care of as the Department of Highways has installed the sign at Files Creek Road.

CONSIDER/REVIEW APPEALS ON THE FIRE FEES TO BE CORRECTED

Commissioner Taylor said since the fire fee bills have went out the Commission office has been very busy with phone calls and people coming in. The fire fee ordinance has an appeal process built into it. Donna Haddix and Joyce Johns have worked for the past three to four weeks on going over each appeal. Commissioner Taylor said there are still some things they need to work out on the fire fee and there will be a work session tomorrow morning at 10:00 with the Attorney that helped draft the ordinance. For commercial property there will be a cap of \$500.00, because businesses with multiple buildings are being charged the same amount as large businesses like Wal-Mart.

There are some that need refunds because they already paid when they shouldn't have and some that needs changes in billing and classifications, etc.

Commissioner Scott moved to approve 12 refunds of fire fees, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the exonerations of fire fees, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the changes in billing and classifications, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

FINAL SETTLEMENTS/ANNUAL ACCOUNTINGS:

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the five (5) final settlements/annual accountings as submitted on the following estates:

Fred Jason Shiflett

Nora Dell Shiflett

William Michael Simmons

Roselena Teter

Richard Lee White

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

BUDGET REVISIONS:

(See attached copy)

Commissioner See moved to approve the one in house budget revision, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

DIVISION OF PROPERTY/ERRONEOUS ASSESSMENTS:

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the erroneous assessments/divisions of property, 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: _____

