

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA  
RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSION SS:

At a regular session of the Randolph County Commission in and for the aforesaid County and State, at the James F. Cain Court House Annex, on the 7th day of January, 2016 at 1:30 P.M.

PRESENT: Michael Taylor, President of the Randolph County Commission and Chris See and Joyce Johns, Randolph County Commissioners thereof.

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Taylor

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MINUTES:

Commissioner Johns moved to approve the minutes from the last regular meeting that was held on December 17, 2015, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

Kurt Gainer from the Randolph County EMS reported that they received a new 2016 four wheel drive box ambulance for the Mill Creek site. He said it has been on the road for about two weeks now and that brings the fleet up to ten.

OEM/911 Director, Cindy Hart said they have updated their website at rcoem.org

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: None

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

ELECT COMMISSION PRESIDENT FOR 2016

Commissioner Taylor said as required by state statute the first item of business on the first meeting of the new year is to elect commission president for 2016.

Commissioner See moved to nominate Michael Taylor as Randolph County Commission President for 2016.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Taylor thanked Commissioner See and Commissioner Johns for 2015. He said he thinks they had a very productive year and he looks forward to 2016. He also thanked Donna Haddix and all the elected officials and department heads for what he feels was a good and successful year.

Commissioner See said he would like to thank Commissioner Taylor for doing a great job last year and he said he thinks he will do a great job in 2016 also.

## SET DATES AND TIMES FOR COUNTY COMMISSION MEETINGS IN 2016

(See attached copy)

Commissioner Taylor said one of the things that we are going to try new this year is, once a quarter we are going to have an evening meeting at 6:00 p.m. We don't know what the attendance will be like, but we thought that it would give the people the opportunity to come that works during the day. The rest of the meetings will remain the same on the first and third Thursday of the month at 1:30 p.m.

Commissioner Johns moved to approve the dates and times of the county commission meetings in 2016, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

## FUNDING REQUEST FROM THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE FOR RANDOLPH COUNTY DAY AT THE STATE CAPITOL (See attached copy of letter)

Jess Arbogast Executive Director of the Elkins- Randolph County Chamber of Commerce, appeared before the Commission. She said this will be the fourth annual Randolph County Day at the Legislature and it is scheduled for Thursday January 21, 2016. This is an opportunity for area businesses and chamber members to travel to the state capitol to participate in the legislative process, advocate for issues important to the Randolph County business community, and most importantly, feature why Randolph County is a quality destination to live, work and play. She said the Chamber will be hosting lunch, a photo op with local officials, and provide attendees with an educational opportunity. They have two sponsorships but are in need of additional financial assistance. Commissioner Taylor said it really is an opportunity to showcase Randolph County. Commissioner See moved to approve the funding request from the Elkins-Randolph County Chamber of Commerce in the amount of \$1,000.00 and that is to be taken out of Hotel/Motel Tax.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Taylor said Jess is leaving the Chamber of Commerce and is moving on to another career and they want to wish her the best and wanted to let her know they think she has represented Randolph County well, and the businesses here, and they have always had a real good working relationship with her and they wish her the best.

## RANDOLPH COUNTY HOUSING AUTHORITY TO GIVE REPORT ON THE HEALTHY HOMES PROGRAM

Karen Jacobson, from the Randolph County Housing Authority, appeared before the Commission. She said she wanted to come and say Thank You for a contribution that the Commission made back in August of 2014 when they were just getting going with the wellness collaborative/healthy home program. Their board of directors in 2010-2011 realized that there was a senior boom happening. She said back in 2014 she came to the commission and talked to them about the wellness collaborative which is a partnership between the Randolph County Housing Authority, Davis Health Systems, the Randolph County Senior Center and the Elkins Randolph County Health Department. She said these four groups came together and started offering a program called Healthy Home at first ward school apartments. She said basically they have all contributed and made a commitment to the program of staff and discounted bus vouchers through the senior

center. She said they came to the Commission to ask for a small amount of funding to try to get it to the next step and the Commission's donation of \$2,891.00 matched a trust fund grant from the West Virginia Affordable Housing Trust fund in the amount of about \$16,000.00. That enabled them to grow a little bit bigger and by the fall of that year they were seen as such a promising model, what we were doing here, that Neighbor Works America which is a national organization, funded a collaborative with our group and a group from Tennessee and another group from Kentucky to see whether in rural Appalachia this idea of putting housing and services together could really make a difference for our Seniors. That enabled them to travel to Vermont to see a model that has been working for three or four years and is being studied and paid for by Medicare. That enabled them to expand to gateway apartments and Cortland acres housing in Thomas. They are now serving 18 participants in Elkins and 12 in Thomas. She said they are gearing up for a much bigger roll out in the next two years based on funding. She said they want to get it to a level that they can show that it makes a big difference to our elders to be able to avoid institutional and emergency room care. She said she just wanted to say Thank You and to let the Commission know that some of the small grants they give really make a huge difference. Commissioner Taylor said it is gratifying to know that giving a small amount of money, to leverage grant money, that we can make a significant impact on the lives of the elderly citizens of Randolph County.

#### GO OVER LIST OF ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF 2015 AND SET GOALS FOR 2016/COMMITTEE APPOINTMENTS

(See attached copy)

Commissioner Taylor read over the list of accomplishments of 2015 and goals for 2016 and the list of the committee assignments for each Commissioner. Commissioner Taylor said revenues in the State are down and it has affected Randolph County mainly in our coal severance area. Randolph County Assessor, Phyllis Yokum will be providing to the Commission in about two months what type of revenues we can expect to have for fiscal year 2016/2017. Assessor Yokum was present and she said it is pretty steady right now and she doesn't see any big significant changes this year. Commissioner Taylor said we are stable and a lot of that is due to Assessor Yokum doing a good job of keeping the assessed values where they need to be and also for Sheriff Brady in collecting the taxes.

#### WORK SESSION WITH ELECTED OFFICIALS AND DEPARTMENT HEADS TO DISCUSS IMPLEMENTATION OF THE NEW FOIA POLICY PER WV STATE LAW/SECRETARY OF STATE'S OFFICE REGULATIONS

Randolph County Prosecuting Attorney, Michael Parker appeared before the Commission. He said House Bill 2636 passed during the 2015 legislative session that mandated the Secretary of State's Office to set up a freedom of information act (FOIA) database to be used to publicly report the results of FOIA requests. He said the Secretary of State's Office is not responsible for it, they just have to provide the database. This House Bill took effect January 1, 2016. He said we are responsible in setting up an account and reporting on the database all the FOIA requests that we receive. Mr. Parker has prepared a form for each elected official/department head to fill out when they receive a FOIA request. The County Commission office will set up an account and Donna Haddix will be the person to give the FOIA forms to and she will enter the

information into the database. If Donna Haddix is not available, Phyllis Yokum will be the backup person. Discussion followed about the fees to be charged. Mr. Parker said he thinks a set fee should be charged by each office. Commissioner Taylor said we will have another meeting on January 21, 2016 at 12:30 to discuss the fees.

Commissioner Johns moved that after any FOIA requests are received the elected official or department head will fill out the FOIA form and submit it to Donna Haddix and she will send it to the Secretary of State's Office by the 10<sup>th</sup> of the month.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Johns moved that if there are any questions or concerns regarding a FOIA request, to direct those questions or concerns to Michael Parker.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

**FINAL SETTLEMENTS/ANNUAL ACCOUNTINGS:**

Commissioner Johns moved to approve the seven final settlements/annual accountings, as submitted.

Richard Lee Harlan  
Roger Alan Hannah  
Mary Belle Loy  
Michael Huffnagel, Sr.  
Rosie N. Scott  
Odus Oliver Dumire  
Jason Carl Mearns

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

**BUDGET REVISIONS:** None

**ERRONEOUS ASSESSMENTS/DIVISIONS OF PROPERTY:**

Commissioner Johns moved to approve the erroneous assessments/divisions of property, as submitted.

All yes - Motion passed unanimously

**PAYMENT OF BILLS:**

Commissioner Johns moved to pay the bills, as submitted.

All yes - Motion passed unanimously

**ADJOURN THE MEETING:**

Commissioner Johns moved to adjourn the meeting.

All yes - Motion passed unanimously

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_