

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 James F. Cain Court House Annex, on the 20th day of February, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.

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

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Kesling

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Mr. Barroso appeared before the Commission. He said he was there to discuss the airport project. He said he is a neighbor of the airport and didn't know anything about it. He wants to object to it. He said he was told if he didn't like it they would use the eminent domain process to do it anyway. He said who is truly benefiting from this project? Why is misleading information being given to the public? He said his wife and himself will be adversely affected by this project. He said they moved to that area to be out of town and have a business in their home taking care of the elderly.

Milford Jones appeared before the Commission. He said he is a resident that lives outside of Valley Bend. He said he is irritated about the airport situation. He is absolutely upset about the way the Commission is allowing the airport to handle this situation. They are not thinking of the people in that area. The Commission is not taking responsibility for this situation. He is very angry and cannot understand why they are springing it on people like this. He said there was no notice of public meeting. He said he will probably be back to speak again.

Clark Martin appeared before the Commission. He said he was there to discuss the possible annexation of the City of Elkins. He said he spoke with Joseph Crislip from Ibex and was told they are down to 40 employees and may be closing soon. This is because Frontier is filing bankruptcy. He said for a few years Ibex was the 2<sup>nd</sup> or 3<sup>rd</sup> largest company in the County. He said if they leave what will the City do with that big building? He said the Independent Order of Living that is located in that area might also leave too. He said the owner of the service station said they may have to close too.

Vivian Parsons from the WV Risk Pool appeared before the Commission. She said she was there to give a report to the Commission regarding the WV Risk Pool that Randolph County is a member of. She said they represent 50 of the 55 counties in West Virginia right now. She said they can also do proposals for Volunteer Fire Departments and cities now too which they couldn't do before. She said the liability rates and workers compensation rates are pretty steady this year. She said they also provide trainings to keep claims down. They would come here and do the trainings and it is free of cost. She went over some of the trainings they provide and some of the other services they provide.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting that was held on February 6, 2020, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

Sheriff Mark Brady reported that there is some remodeling going on in his office to accommodate his new employee. He said this will make it so people can go to the middle door to talk to her about the fire fee and won't have to come to the main office. He said he still needs two police cruisers and has run an ad in the newspaper for them. He said he only received one bid from a local vendor and one State bid. He said right now the local vendor is the lowest bid so far. He said one of the vehicles he is requesting is a hybrid vehicle which will cost \$3,000.00 more but it will save money in the long run.

Erin Golden, Director of North Central Community Corrections, appeared before the Commission. She said there are currently 117 participants on the program and the program has saved the County \$1,189,983.25 in regional jail bills so far this fiscal year.

Rhett Dusenberry, from Congressman Alex Mooney's office, appeared before the Commission. He said Congressman Mooney is ready to sign any letters of support the Commission needs in applying for grants. He gave the Commission and handout that tells them how to reach Mr. Mooney if needed.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Kesling announced that the next meeting of the Randolph County Commission will be held on Thursday March 5, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.

Commissioner Kesling also announced that the budgets are due from the elected officials on March 2<sup>nd</sup> and the Commission will meet with the elected officials to go over them on March 5<sup>th</sup>.

Commissioner Scott announced that the Commission has received three applications from the City of Elkins for annexation. Those have been given to the Prosecuting Attorney to review.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

CONSIDER DONATION TO EHS GRADUATION PARTY

(See copy attached)

Angie Goff, 2020 EHS Project Safe Graduation & GFWC Junior Woman's Club President, appeared before the Commission. She said this is the 11<sup>th</sup> year she has come to the Commission to ask for funding for the EHS Project Safe Graduation. She said this will be the 35<sup>th</sup> year for the party so it's a big year. She said they are considering doing a mock disaster this year to show the students they are not indispensable and this is what started it all. She said they will have games and prizes for the students and this year they are going to take 10 kids shopping with them. She said the Commission has given them

\$2,000.00 in the past which helps a lot. She said they usually have anywhere from \$12,000.00 to \$16,000.00 worth of prizes. Commissioner See said it's a very worthy cause and hats off to Ms. Goff for all her hard work.

Commissioner See moved to approve \$2,000.00 to the EHS Annual Graduation Party and that is to be taken out of Courthouse Contractual funds.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION FROM ELKINS DEPOT WELCOME CENTER

Anne Beardslee and Tara Landavere appeared before the Commission. There was also several other people in attendance, Sue Sheets, Kris Wilmoth, Tom Rosier and others. Ms. Beardslee and Ms. Landavere showed a power point presentation. Ms. Beardslee said their main goal is to increase economics for the County. She said in 2018 there was 54.5 million dollars in direct tourism spending in Randolph County. In April of last year they launched their website. They also have a Randolph County mapping guide. Last year there were 46,000 visitors in Randolph County. They post a calendar on their website of all the community events. Ms. Landavere said in 2020 they have done a new video, travel guide etc. Ms. Beardslee said they sincerely hope that the Commission knows they don't take their funding or their jobs lightly.

#### INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION FROM LAURA WARD WITH COUNTRY ROADS TRANSIT

Laura Ward appeared before the Commission. She said she was there to provide the yearly report of Country Roads Transit. She said in the 2018-2019 year they provided 17,618 rides to doctor's appointments, employment, shopping etc. She said a large portion of these riders can't get there without this transportation. She said they had a 2% increase last year and are on track for a 12% increase this year so far. She said people in Mill Creek and Huttonsville area wanted the service so they tried it for 6 months but there were no riders so they stopped it. She said they are trying to meet the needs of the people. She said the veterans used to have a van to go to Clarksburg to their doctor's appointments but they stopped doing it. She said Country Roads Transit would like to be able to purchase a Van and do it. She said she is getting the numbers together now but it looks like it will cost about \$40,000.00 a year to do it. She said this is a much needed service and she might be coming back to the Commission for help with funding. Commissioner Scott said they are working on the budget now so if she could get a proposal together in the next couple of weeks that would be good.

#### INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION FROM JEFF FELLERS WITH RUN FOR IT (See copy attached)

Kelly Stadleman with Tucker Community Foundation appeared before the Commission. She said Mr. Fellers could not attend. Ms. Stadleman said since 2013 the Randolph County Commission has helped sponsor Run For It. She said they have given \$5,000.00 for the past few years. She said Randolph County had 17 teams enter last year and the total amount that came back into Randolph County was \$30,498.82. She said last year there was a total of 181 participants. She said about 1,500 people come to Davis, WV that day. She said September 26, 2020 will be the day of the event this year and she invited the Commissioners to attend and hand out awards.

#### CONSIDER SIGNING GRANT APPLICATION FOR COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Erin Golden, Director of North Central Community Corrections appeared before the Commission. She said she thought the grant application was due on March 4<sup>th</sup> but she was notified that it is not due until March 20<sup>th</sup> so this can be taken care of at the next meeting. Commissioner Scott moved to table this item until the next meeting.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER EMPLOYMENT STATUS IN COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS OFFICE

Erin Golden, Director of North Central Community Corrections appeared before the Commission. She said it is looking like her employee Zachary Stell is going to be getting a job in Harrison County. She said she will not know for sure until March 9<sup>th</sup>. If he does leave she would like to move Melissa Teter into Zack's position. Commissioner See moved to table this item until the next meeting.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF HIRING 911 EMPLOYEES

(See copies attached)

Cindy Hart, 911/OEM Director appeared before the Commission. She discussed several bills that she is watching regarding 911. She said for the six years that she has been here there hasn't been much turnover at the 911 Center but for the past 5 months there has been. She said she would like to move Sydney Tate and Terrina Tacy up to full time status effective February 24, 2020. Commissioner See moved to approve the job status from part time to full time effective February 24, 2020 for Sydney Tate and Terrina Tacy and the salaries are covered under the current budget for 911.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Cindy Hart also requested the part time hire of three people, Kimberly Ariola, Stephanie Gomez and Cheryl Jerome. These will be part time positions with no county benefits and they will all be placed on a 90 day probationary period. The starting pay will be \$9.94 per hour and the current budget will cover their wages. She would like them to begin February 24, 2020.

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the part time hire of Kimberly Ariola, Stephanie Gomez and Cheryl Jerome as 911 dispatchers, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Cindy Hart also notified the Commission that Robert Petrice has resigned his position with Randolph County 911.

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CLOSING OLD ESTATES

Brenda Wiseman, Randolph County Clerk appeared before the Commission. She said her office is still working on closing old estates pursuant to House Bill 2746 and today she has 599 more estates to be closed.

Commissioner Scott moved to close 599 additional old estates, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

FINAL SETTLEMENTS:

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the six final settlements/annual accountings as submitted on the following estates:

Hazel Virginia Carr

David Emmett Cooper

Joseph James Depollo

Sharyn Vaughn Kerns

Carol Lee Mallow

Elwood Lynn Strawder

All yes -- Motion passed unanimously

BUDGET REVISIONS:

(See copies attached)

Commissioner Scott moved to approve an in house budget revision for the Assessor's office in the amount of \$3,500.00.

All yes -- Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Scott moved to approve an in house budget revision for the General County Fund in the amount of \$3,759.52.

All yes -- Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner See moved to approve a state budget revision for the Circuit Clerk's Office in the amount of \$250.00.

Commissioner See voted yes, Commissioner Scott voted yes, Commissioner Kesling voted yes -- Motion passed

Commissioner See moved to approve a state budget revision for the Circuit Clerk's Office in the amount of \$500.00.

Commissioner See voted yes, Commissioner Scott voted yes, Commissioner Kesling voted yes -- Motion passed

Commissioner See moved to approve a state budget revision for reimbursement from FEMA in the amount of \$5,687.00.

Commissioner See voted yes, Commissioner Scott voted yes, Commissioner Kesling voted yes -- Motion passed

Commissioner Scott moved to approve a state budget revision for a pass thru for the soil conservation funding in the amount of \$133,723.00.

Commissioner Scott voted yes, Commissioner See voted yes, Commissioner Kesling voted yes -- Motion passed

DIVISION OF PROPERTY /ERRONEOUS ASSESSMENTS:

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the Division of Property/ Erroneous Assessments, as submitted.

All yes - Motion passed unanimously

**DISTRESSED PROPERTIES:**

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the enforcement agencies recommendation to send letters out to the property owners on file numbers 1904 & 1905.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

**FIRE FEE ADJUSTMENTS:**

Commissioner See moved to approve the 89 fire fee adjustments, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

**PAYMENT OF BILLS:**

Commissioner Scott moved to pay the bills, as submitted. All yes - Motion passed unanimously

**ADJOURN THE MEETING:**

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

ATTEST: \_\_\_\_\_