

STATE OF WEST VIRGINIA
RANDOLPH COUNTY COMMISSIONERS:

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 7th day of March, 2019 at 1:30 p.m.

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

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Scott

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Rhett Dusenbury from Congressman Alex Mooney's office appeared before the Commission. He said he was there to offer assistance to the County Commission in their endeavors to serve the citizens of Randolph County. He also had a letter of support from Congressman Alex Mooney to the USDA in support of the Adrian Public Service District's water line extension project to bring water service to the Pickens area, which could serve 166 potential customers. He read the letter out loud.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve the minutes of the January 31, 2019 special meeting, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner See moved to approve the minutes of the February 21, 2019 regular meeting, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

Curt Gainer from the Randolph County Emergency Squad reported that all three stations are up and running and they currently have one EMT position open.

Randolph County Clerk, Brenda Wiseman reported on the Special election. She said early voting ended yesterday, March 6th and there were a total of 2,588 voters who voted early. She said Election Day is Saturday March 9th and the polls will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. She said that evening the results will be read in the courtroom and the public is invited to attend.

CORRESPONDENCE: None.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Scott announced that the next meeting of the Randolph County Commission will be on March 21, 2019 at 1:30 p.m.

Commissioner Scott announced that the County Commission will start budget meetings with the elected officials and department heads beginning tomorrow at 9:30 a.m. and will continue on Monday at 10:00 a.m.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION – CAROL BUSH – CENSUS BUREAU

(See copy attached)

Carol Cain Bush appeared before the Commission. She said she recently started working for the US Census Bureau as a partnership specialist. She said she is letting people know that the census is important. She said this is how money is distributed to the Counties and grants are given and it is used for housing, employment and much more. The census is conducted every 10 years. There will be no more paper survey's, it will be done online or by phone. She said for people who do not comply online or by phone there will be census takers going door to door. She is hoping that the Commission considers forming a committee which will promote and encourage response to the 2020 Census in the community. Commissioner See said he thinks the biggest challenge will be with the elderly.

CONSIDER ASSISTANCE FOR WV IOOF MID ATLANTIC CONCLAVE

(See copy attached)

Larry Ferguson from Middle Atlantic States Conclave of West Virginia IOOF, appeared before the Commission. He said this group involves 8 States, including the District of Columbia. This year it is WV's turn to host the event. He said this is a social gathering and they auction off things and any money collected goes to scholarships for students in WV. He said this is a big event for them and it is usually held in Morgantown. He said they work all year long to raise money and last year they gave out 78 \$1,500.00 scholarships in WV. Commissioner See moved to approve the funding request in the amount of \$1,500.00 to the WV IOOF Mid Atlantic Conclave and that is to be taken out of Hotel/Motel Tax funds.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER ADOPTION OF PERSONNEL LEAVE DONATION POLICY

Commissioner Scott said the Commission has an employee that is having a bout with brain cancer. He said right before Christmas he received a call that the Humane Officer, Charles Ramsey, had a larger cancerous tumor in his brain. He said several employees have asked about giving him some of their leave that they have built up. He said the Commission researched it and came up with a policy that mirrors the State's policy. He said this is a pretty extensive plan that took lots of research. This will be made a part of the handbook and distributed to the employees. Commissioner See moved to adopt the personnel leave policy, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER RETAINER AGREEMENT WITH WVU COLLEGE OF LAW, LAND USE AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT CLINIC

Commissioner Scott said the Commission is thinking of doing an Ordinance to deal with distressed property. He said they were advised not to do this without legal advice in case it ended up in Court in the future. The WVU College of Law will work on this for the Commission at no charge except for travel if they have to come to Elkins. There will be students involved. Commissioner Kesling moved to approve the signing of the retainer agreement with WVU College of Law, Land Use and Sustainable Development Clinic.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVING FINANCIAL PLAN BETWEEN SHERIFF AND USDA

Commissioner Scott said this is something that is done every year with the Sheriff and the USDA. Sheriff Mark Brady said this is an annual plan with the US Forest Service for the deputies to patrol national forests. This is for when the campers are in the remote rural areas to keep down problems and to maintain order and it is overtime for the deputies. He said they have been doing it for many years now. Sheriff Brady said the amount is \$3,845.00 and this covers salary and mileage. Commissioner See said this is a good program to help out people camping. Commissioner See moved to approve the financial plan between the Sheriff and the USDA, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER FUNDING OF WHITMER WATER PLANT ROAD REPAIR PROJECT

Commissioner Scott said he was approached by the Whitmer Water Plant people about a month or month and a half ago, as he is the new representative for the Whitmer Water plant. He said they have a four million dollar water plant that sits up on top of a hill on a road that is not maintained by the County. This road has gotten to the point where it is nearly impassable. The manager of the plant is having problems getting up there to go to work especially when the weather is bad. Commissioner Scott said he spoke to the Department of Highways and asked them if there was any way they could grade the road or do anything to it. He said they researched it and said they cannot do anything to it. He said the problem is that if an emergency response team had to go up there they couldn't. Commissioner Scott said he reached out to some contractors to see who could help and Polino Enterprises got back to him and said they could grade it and stone it at a cost of \$5,048.00. He said the Department of Highways has agreed to maintain it once it's done. Commissioner Kesling moved to approve the funding for the Whitmer Water Plant Road repair project in the amount of \$5,048.00.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPOINTMENTS TO THE RANDOLPH COUNTY FIRE BOARD

Commissioner Scott said they currently have a few openings on the Randolph County Fire Board and this is the governing body for the fire fees so they need to get those filled. He said they have reviewed the by-laws and previous minutes from where some of the appointments were made. He said they found that they have 6 additional openings at this time. He said they have 3 people that are willing to take those positions at this time. He said they are very strict about where the members come from, it has to be 3 members from the fire department, 3 citizens at large with one from each magisterial district and 1

County Commissioner, which is Commissioner See. He said they have been advised by their Attorney, Frank Bush to do temporary appointments today and then before the first of July they will do the actual appointments.

Commissioner Kesling moved to appoint Ernie George from Coalton, Bob Elbon from Dailey and John Young from Ellamore for the County residents to the Randolph County Fire Board for a term beginning March 7, 2019 and ending June 30, 2019.

All yes -- Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner See said currently on the board is Chris See and Jeff Pritt.

CONSIDER CELL PHONE CONTRACT WITH MAGISTRATES

Commissioner See said the Magistrate's have old flip phones that are in bad shape. The Commission contacted US Cellular and Cricket Wireless to see what the best option was. Cricket Wireless has 4 lines which would cover the 3 magistrates plus Erin Golden, who also needs a new phone, for \$128.00 per month with unlimited service. There will be some other costs for the phones, screen protectors and cases in the amount of \$425.00. Commissioner See moved to approve the cell phone contract with Cricket Wireless for the Magistrates and Community Corrections phones.

All yes -- Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER SECURITY UPGRADES FROM COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS

Commissioner Scott said an office in the Community Corrections area needs video monitoring. There is also some issues with some switches that were installed over 10 years ago that is causing problems with court security. The Commission has received an estimate for \$1,593.00 with Digital Soup. Commissioner Kesling moved to approve the security upgrade in the amount of \$1,593.00 with Digital Soup for the Community Corrections office.

All yes -- Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BIDS FOR 911 CENTER FOR FURNITURE, FIXTURES AND EQUIPMENT

Cindy Hart, OEM/911 Director appeared before the Commission. She said Fred Paack is the person she works with through Silling Architects. He contacted her regarding the bids for the furniture, fixtures and equipment. She said she was excited because that means they are getting closer to being done with the construction phase. She said the original estimate for this was \$96,606.00. There were a few snags along the way with some doors they had to replace. She said they had two bids come in and Silling's did the bidding process for these. The first bid was from Capitol Business for \$102,836.61 and the second bid was from Omega Interiors for \$125,440.47. Silling Architects recommends the low bid from Capitol Business, she said. Ms. Hart said there is still \$174,000.00 left in contingency funds and that is where this will be taken out of. Commissioner See asked if this will be the last big purchase? Ms. Hart said she hopes so. Commissioner See moved to approve the bid for 911 Center from Capitol Business in the amount of \$102,836.61.

All yes -- Motion passed unanimously

FINAL SETTLEMENTS:

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

Denver R. Barnett, Jr.

Michael Paul Dunmire

James Robert Simons

Betty June White

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

BUDGET REVISIONS:

(See attached copies)

Commissioner See moved to approve one State budget revision in the amount of \$15,000.00 for the special election fees, as submitted.

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

Commissioner See moved to approve one In house budget revision in the amount of \$9,957.00 for Community Corrections new hire expenses, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

DIVISION OF PROPERTY /ERRONEOUS ASSESSMENTS:

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

All yes - Motion passed unanimously

FIRE FEE ADJUSTMENTS:

Commissioner See moved to approve 66 fire fee adjustments, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Scott said that the Commission received a written request from a taxpayer that wanted an exoneration done from 2010 – 2017 on their taxes. Assessor Yokum spoke to the taxpayer and they did do exoneration for one year and explained that it is a year to year thing. Commissioner Scott said State Code is very clear that a taxpayer has to notify us within a year in order for them to approve an exoneration. He said they will send a letter to the taxpayer explaining all of that.

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve the signing of the letter to the taxpayer.

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: _____