

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 21st 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:

Craig Fortney appeared before the Commission. He said he just wanted to follow up because he had been reading some articles in the Inter Mountain about the financial situation with the County Commission. He said because of his job he was aware of a large amount of money that was owed to the County Commission at one point. He said when the sale of the Hampton Inn was held it was questioned by potential buyers of what they would be responsible for, and it was made very clear by the substitute trustee that all unpaid taxes would have to be paid. He said at that time it was \$79,911.00 that was owed. He said he just wanted to follow up on that and see if the County Commission had been paid that overdue amount in Hotel/Motel Taxes? Commissioner Scott said he actually met with Mr. Fortney's boss and answered those questions. Commissioner Scott said a letter was submitted and was forwarded to the Sheriff and he is putting together the answer to that. Commissioner Scott said they really don't answer questions during public comment but they are preparing the answers to the questions. Sheriff Brady said they will prepare a written answer and give it to the Commission. Commissioner Scott said they will then answer Mr. Fortney and his boss by way of a letter.

MINUTES:

Commissioner See moved to approve the minutes of the March 7, 2019 regular meeting, as submitted.

All yes -- Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

Erin Golden, North Central Community Corrections Director, appeared before the Commission. She said they currently have 114 on the program and the program has saved the County \$1,368,005.25 in regional jail bills so far this fiscal year.

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 and April 5th is the deadline to apply for that.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Commissioner Scott said the Commission received a letter from the West Virginia Division of Highways regarding a statewide transportation improvement program. He

read the letter out loud. The letter said the statewide transportation improvement program is required to provide financial documents and plans to be under public review and comment. These documents will be available in the County Commission office.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Scott announced that the next meeting of the Randolph County Commission will be on April 4, 2019 at 1:30 p.m.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

CONSIDER COMPUTER UPGRADES FOR COURTHOUSE ANNEX

Commissioner Scott said Assessor, Phyllis Yokum made the Commission aware that the Cisco router needed to be replaced. Within the next six months it is not going to be supported because of the age. Commissioner Scott said they received a quote from Global Science and Technology in the amount of \$3,498.00 to replace the router. Commissioner Kesling moved to approve the upgrade of the router for the courthouse annex, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER FUNDING REQUEST FOR MOUNTAIN STATE STREET MACHINES (See copy attached)

Commissioner Scott said the Chamber of Commerce was holding the car show until a few years ago when Tammy Dolly with Our Town, Inc. took it over. Ms. Dolly has sent the Commission a request for funding for this year's car show that is to be held in downtown Elkins July 5th, 6th and 7th. Commissioner Scott said this brings a lot of visitors to our town. Commissioner See moved to approve the funding request from Our Town, Inc. for the Mountain State Street Machines car show, in the amount of \$4,000.00 and that is to be taken out of Hotel/Motel Tax funds.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER RENOVATION PROJECT AT PROBATION OFFICE

Commissioner Scott said the Commission received a letter from the Circuit Court Judge regarding this issue. The WV Supreme Court has approved Randolph County to get two new probation officers. Commissioner Scott said there is not enough room for them to work in the probation office we have now. They have put in a request to have some remodeling done over there, to make space that is needed for these two new probation officers. The Commission received an estimate from BCT Construction in the amount of \$8,206.00 for the renovations.

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve the renovation project at the probation office in the amount of \$8,206.00 with BCT Construction.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER PART TIME COURT SECURITY HIRE

(See copy attached)

James S. Bibey, Chief Court Security Officer with the Randolph County Sheriff's Office, appeared before the Commission. Mr. Bibey said the Randolph County Court Security Office is a part of the Randolph County Sheriff's Office. He said they currently have

four full- time and one part time officer. He said they have a lot of responsibility with all the courts and building security they do. He said there are times when they need help and have to call on one or two deputies to assist them. This takes the deputies away from their duties. He said they would like to be able to hire an additional part time court security officer to be used on an as needed basis. The person they would like to hire is Grover Cleveland Rosencrance who retired from the WV Division of Corrections with 36 years of service, last serving as a Deputy Warden. The background check was already conducted and he was approved for hire. Mr. Bibey said they would like for Mr. Rosencrance to start working on April 8, 2019 with a starting pay rate of \$12.00 per hour. Sheriff Mark Brady said there is already funding in his budget for this position and it will be a non benefited position. Commissioner See moved to approve the part time hire of Grover Cleveland Rosencrance as a Court Security Officer with the Randolph County Sheriff's Office, with an effective date of hire of April 8, 2019 and with a starting salary of \$12.00 per hour with no benefits.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

PRESENTATION OF VOCA GRANT

Randolph County Prosecuting Attorney, Michael Parker appeared before the Commission. He said he was there to ask permission for the President of the County Commission to sign the VOCA Grant application for this year. He said this funds the salary of the victim of services position. He said mostly everything is the same but just a few little changes this time. He said at this time he does not have an amount of the grant. Commissioner See moved to approve the President's signature on the VOCA Grant application, as submitted.

All yes -- Motion passed unanimously

COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS GRANT PRESENTATION

Erin Golden, North Central Community Corrections Director, appeared before the Commission. She said she was there to present the grant application for 2019-2020 for North Central Community Corrections. She said the total requested for the grant is \$236,854.00. That includes a cash match of \$71,056.00. She said this will need to be signed by the Commission so she can forward it to Charleston. Commissioner Scott said he would like to note that just because the grant application requests a salary increase that is not necessarily the amount that will be given, that will be a part of the budget process, but what we are doing is approving that request which is a part of the request that the board has recommended for us to approve in order to get the grant amount requested. Commissioner Kesling moved to approve the signing of the Community Corrections grant application, as presented.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CERTIFY SPECIAL ELECTION RESULTS

(See copy attached)

Randolph County Clerk, Brenda Wiseman presented the Commission with the certified election results of the Special Election that was held on March 9, 2019 for the school board levy. She said the canvass of the election results took place on March 15, 2019 and

that is when the County Commission went through all of the provisional ballots to determine which ones were to be counted and also to approve the counting of the absentee ballots that came in after Election Day, but before the canvass started. She said this certificate needs to be signed by all three Commissioners and then she will send it to the Secretary of State's Office in Charleston, for them to put on record.

Commissioner See moved to certify the election results of the Special Election that was held on March 9, 2019, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

APPROVE BUDGET FOR FY 2019-2020

Commissioner Scott said the Commission had a series of meetings beginning the first of March with all the elected officials and department heads. The Commission asked for them to do a base line budget and not to ask for any raises at that time. He said at that first meeting they announced that the County had been spending more money than they had been receiving. Then the Commission sat down with each of them and went through line by line to see where their budgets could be reduced. Commissioner Scott said at the end of that process they found that they were going to be able to provide a pay raise for the County employees. In this proposed budget they have given each elected official/department head a block grant so that the elected official/department head will have money to be able to do a merit pay raise system. Commissioner Scott said there are so many parts to look at when you are approving almost a ten million dollar budget. He said in this budget they are proposing, the County Commission has taken a \$38,086.00 cut in their office budget. He said each office pitched in and most elected officials have taken a cut in their budgets.

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve the budget for FY 2019-2020, as submitted.

Discussion: Commissioner Kesling thanked all the elected officials and department heads that they worked with, they met with them one on one as well as in a group. He said from where they started they reduced the budget by 1.5 million which is about a 16% reduction. He said did everybody get what they wanted, no, did he get what he wanted, no, but it's going to take more than one budget cycle to get the over spending that has been done by prior Commissions in line. He said there is no more of these lines where money is being put just to hold it or lines where the money is put in for years and never used, those lines are gone. Anybody that wants to can come and see exactly where the money comes in and where it goes out. He said the raises that they approved are what he feels is fiscally responsible as a Commissioner, he said they could have given more but once you do that you have to continue that for the next year and so forth. Commissioner Scott said the treasurer's office will be giving them monthly reports so they can keep track of their spending month by month. Commissioner See said he agrees that the monthly reports are very vital to keep track of the spending and not get too far ahead of themselves. Commissioner See said the regional jail bill takes a lot of money and he thinks that caused a lot of the issues over the last few years. Commissioner Scott said yesterday they had a final budget workshop and met with the Sheriff and found out that one of the deputies is going to be leaving for a year deployment, just a few months into the new fiscal year. He said the Commission budgeted the money for a second full time deputy for half a year to make up for the one that is leaving. Commissioner See said he would like to thank all the elected officials/department heads again for all they did.