

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 3rd day of September, 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:

Rhett Dusenberry, representing Congressman Alex Mooney, appeared before the Commission. He thanked all the first responders that were present for all that they do. He said Phase 8 for the Pickens water project has been funded and he wanted to announce that. He said he attends a lot of meetings and some counties are not as well funded as Randolph County. He said at those meeting he tries to see what the counties need. He said he saw on the agenda today that the County Commission is considering donating a vehicle to the Calhoun County Sheriff's Department. He said he wanted to thank the Commission for doing that.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting that was held on August 20, 2020, as submitted.
All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

County Clerk, Brenda Wiseman gave a report regarding the upcoming election. She said in the Primary Election the Secretary of State's Office sent out postcards to every registered voter. The voter filled out the card and mailed it in to the County Clerk's Office to request an absentee ballot. She said that was due to the Governor's stay at home order that was in place at that time. That order has been lifted now. She said there will not be post cards going out to everyone this time. She said everyone can still get an absentee ballot due to the virus but they will have to request it. She said they can call her office and have an application sent to them by mail or go online to Govotewv.com and fill it out and submit it online to us. The deadline to apply for an absentee ballot is October 28, 2020. She said early voting will begin on October 21st and run thru October 31st. She said early voting will be located at the Wees Annex in Elkins and the Mill Creek Public Library in Mill Creek. She said on Election Day, November 3, 2020, all precincts will be open from 6:30 a.m. to 7:30 p.m. She said the same precautions will be used at the polls as were in the primary election.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Commissioner Scott said the Commission received a correspondence that Carter-Roag Coal Company is going to be opening a new coal mine in Randolph County. This will bring in close to 100 jobs. They are working on all the permits now.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Kesling announced that the next regular meeting will be held on September 17, 2020 at 1:30 p.m. He said he will not be present, but Commissioner See will be presiding over the meeting.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

(See copy attached)

CONSIDERATION OF SIGNING A PROCLAMATION HONORING ALL COUNTY FIRST RESPONDERS (See copy attached)

Commissioner Scott thanked all the first responders for coming to the meeting. He thanked them for all they have done to keep everyone safe. He said there has only been 1 death reported so far in Randolph County due to the virus. In attendance were Sheriff Mark Brady, Chief Deputy Bradley Sharp, Deputy Ethan Carr and Deputy Aaron Channell. Sheriff Brady said these guys are the ones to Thank, not him. He said they work hard and have never taken a day off. 911/OEM Director, Cindy Hart was present along with Deputy Director, Jim Ancell, 911 Supervisors, Tina Owens and Hillary White. Dr. Mindy Chua, Chief Medical Officer from Davis Medical Center was present along with her team members Whitney Nail, Abby Haddix, Hollis Lipscomb and Phil Chua. Heather Brown with Randolph County Emergency Squad was present along with Kenny Hamrick, Robin Glassecock, Cody Arbogast and Tom Tocarski. Jonathon Swecker from the Huttonsville VFD was present. Clarence Turner, Chief of Whitmer VFD and Bill Jordan a member of Whitmer VFD was present. Chief Turner said the death from COVID came from their area and he is pretty sure it is a misprint in the paper. He said he has been the fire chief in Whitmer since 1984. Bob Elbon, Chief of the Tygarts Valley Fire Department, was present along with one of the newer officers in training. He said he has been on the fire department for 49 years. He said it takes a lot to do this job. Commissioner Scott said they wanted to take the opportunity to thank them all. Commissioner Kesling read the Proclamation out loud. Commissioner Scott moved to approve the proclamation, as read.

All yes -- Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Scott said there are some first responders that are on deployment fighting the wildfires. Curt Gainer from the emergency squad is in California. Heather Brown said Brian Warner and Michael Mayo are also deployed for that. Assessor Yokum said Seth Pratt from her office just returned from fighting the fires.

INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION FROM HANNAH FINCHAM

Hannah Fincham, County Program Coordinator for WVU Extension Office, appeared before the Commission along with Casey McKay, program assistant. She said WVU Extension Office is operated by a cooperation of federal, state and local funds. She said

she wanted to Thank the Commission for their support. She said she has worked in 3 counties and Randolph County is the best for providing programming monies. She said since the virus hit they have been trying to figure out what to do. She said they made up kits to send home with the kids with potato growing etc. She said some of the 4-H volunteers made masks. They held a virtual 4-H camp and virtual food preservation class. She said in April and May they bought playground stencils to have active pathways in school since they can't play on the playgrounds. She said they have put them in 6 out of 9 schools now and she wants to give the County Commission credit for it. She said without the funding from the County they couldn't do it. She said they also had a virtual livestock sale which brought in around \$40,000.00. She said that is a lot less than normal.

CONSIDER RATIFYING SIGNATURE FOR LOAN AGREEMENT FOR VOTING MACHINES

Commissioner Scott said the Commission agreed at a previous meeting to apply for a grant for the new voting machines. The grant was awarded for over half of the cost of the machines, but the County will still have to pay for the remaining cost. The company that the Commission is buying the machines from has agreed to a three year 0% interest rate loan. The name of that company is Election Systems and Software. Commissioner See moved to ratify the signature on the loan agreement for the voting machines for the County Clerk's Office.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER CHANGES TO PAID HOLIDAY SCHEDULE

Commissioner Kesling said the forest festival has been cancelled this year. He said normally the County gives forest festival Friday off but have decided to remove that day for 2020 only. Commissioner See said the reason they give that day off is because you can't get thru town with the coronation going on. Commissioner See moved to remove Forest Festival Friday as a holiday on October 2, 2020. This is for this year only.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDERATION OF APPROVAL OF DOCUMENTS TO ACQUIRE PROPERTY FOR POOL/SPLASH PAD

Commissioner Kesling said there are a couple of things that need done first.

Commissioner Scott said they will need to do a lease agreement first then purchase agreement and survey. Commissioner Kesling said the County is going to purchase the property then lease it back to the Elks. Commissioner See said they need to apply for the grant. Commissioner Kesling said no property tax money will be used for this project as they will be using coal severance funds for this. Commissioner Scott moved to give the County Commission president authority to sign all documents relating to the pool/splash pad project.

Discussion: Commissioner See said one thing was the staffing issue and the Elks will staff the pool.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF SHERIFF TO TRADE IN CURRENT VEHICLES FOR NEW CRUISERS

Sheriff Brady said he has cruisers that are way past date. He would like to purchase two cruisers from Elkins Fordland. He would like to trade in some older vehicles for them. He said the cost to the County would be \$14,975.00. He said at the end of all this he will have two spare vehicles. He thanked the Commission for doing this. Commissioner See moved to approve the trade in of the old vehicles for the two new cruisers at a cost of \$14,975.00.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF MAGISTRATE COURT BUILDING REPAIRS

Commissioner Scott said back in 2017 there were some small repairs done to the courtroom at the Magistrate's Building. They put new carpet in and did some other repairs. There is damage to the walls due to leaking. Commissioner Scott said they want to remodel it to look similar to the County Commission meeting room. They also want to move the door to a different location. He said the Community Corrections Office called and said there is leaking now on the top floor of the building. He said the Commission received a quote from Hopes and Dreams Construction for a total of \$15,395.00. Commissioner Scott moved to approve the quote from Hopes and Dreams Construction for the Magistrate Court building repairs and this will be paid for out of worthless check funds.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF SIGNING A LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR ACT WORK READY COMMUNITIES

(See copy attached)

Commissioner Kesling said there was a letter sent to be signed by the Commission. Commissioner Scott said Main Street is the main sponsor of this program and has asked the Commission to do this. He said this is for ACT testing and once the person is tested and it is determined what job they would be best suited for they will provide training for it thru this program. Commissioner Scott moved to approve signing a letter of support for ACT Work Ready Communities, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDERATION OF ONE-TIME ADDITIONAL SUPPORT FOR BEVERLY CVB

Commissioner Scott said last month they did a change on the division for the Hotel/Motel Tax funds. He said the Commission failed to communicate with the County Clerk's Office the change. Commissioner Scott moved to take \$571.76 from the other 50% of Hotel/Motel Tax funds and give to Beverly Heritage CVB.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER DONATING A DECOMMISSIONED SHERIFF'S VEHICLE TO CALHOUN COUNTY SHERIFF'S DEPARTMENT

Commissioner See moved to donate a decommissioned Sheriff's vehicle, a Ford Explorer with 147,000 miles, to the Calhoun County Sheriff's Department.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER FUNDING FROM COVID GRANT FOR HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Commissioner Scott said the County Commission received a request from Linda Sanders with the Health Department. He said the Health Department has been paying over time for their workers thru a grant but the grant has ran out. He said the County received a grant of \$100,000.00 for COVID funding. He said they still have approximately \$25,000.00 left. Commissioner Scott moved to take \$15,000.00 out of COVID Funds to give to the Randolph Elkins Health Department for overtime and wages.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF POLL WORKERS FOR NOVEMBER 3, 2020
GENERAL ELECTION

County Clerk, Brenda Wiseman presented the poll workers list from the Republican Executive Committee for the November 3, 2020 General Election. She said the Democrat Executive Committee is still working on their list and she will present it at the next meeting. Commissioner See moved to approve the Republican poll workers as submitted for the November 3, 2020 General Election.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF AWARD OF GRANT FOR SCANNER FOR GENERAL
ELECTION

County Clerk, Brenda Wiseman said the grant that was applied for to lease a scanner for the general election, to scan the absentee ballots, has been awarded. She said this grant will only pay for half of the cost to lease the scanner and the County would have to pay the other half. Commissioner Scott moved to approve the acceptance of the grant award for the scanner for the general election.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FIDUCIARY COMMISSIONER'S
RECOMMENDATION ON THE ESTATE OF HARRY RAY SCOTT

(See copy attached)

County Clerk, Brenda Wiseman presented the recommendation of Fiduciary Commissioner, John J. Wallace, IV to the Commission. She said Mr. Wallace could not come to the meeting. She said this is an old estate from back in 2000 that has not been settled. She said Mr. Wallace has tried to contact the heirs to settle this estate but has not had any success. She said Mr. Wallace is recommending that the Sheriff be appointed to settle the estate. Commissioner Scott moved to approve the recommendation of the Fiduciary Commissioner on the estate of Harry Ray Scott, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

FINAL SETTLEMENTS:

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the 16 final settlements/annual accountings as submitted on the following estate:

Phillip Carl Aylestock

Linda M. Bozic

Cassia Fallon Collins

Daisy Lucinda Currence
Mark Alan Daniels
Mary Louise Daniels
John Paul Dornblazer
Roger Lee Jones
Marilyn Jewell Kelly
Elizabeth Eloise Mann
Nora Elizabeth Phares
John Allen Plum
Ellen Simmons
Lois Carol Simmons
Dale Gene Wilfong
Margaret S. Yokum
All yes – Motion passed unanimously

BUDGET REVISIONS:

(See copies attached)

Commissioner Scott moved to approve a State budget revision for the increase in poll worker pay in the amount of \$3,375.00.

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

Commissioner Scott moved to approve an In House budget revision to create an expense line for worthless checks in the amount of \$43,000.00.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Scott moved to approve a State budget revision for the litter control grant in the amount of \$2,394.00.

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

ERRONEOUS ASSESSMENT:

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the erroneous assessment on Penn Virginia, LLC, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

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: None

FIRE FEE ADJUSTMENTS:

Commissioner See moved to approve the 2 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 See moved to adjourn the meeting.
All yes – Motion passed unanimously

ATTEST: _____