

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 17th day of September, 2020 at 1:30 p.m.

Present: Chris See and Mark Scott Randolph County Commissioners, Commission President David Kesling was absent

Meeting called to order by Commissioner See

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MINUTES:

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the minutes from the special meeting that was held on September 3, 2020, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting that was held on September 3, 2020, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

Erin Golden, Director of North Central Community Corrections, appeared before the Commission. She said there are currently 123 participants on the program and the program has saved the County \$487,083.75 in regional jail bills so far this fiscal year. (See copy attached)

County Clerk, Brenda Wiseman gave a report regarding the upcoming election. She said her office will begin mailing the absentee ballots out tomorrow, September 18, 2020. She said as of right now her office has received 1,129 requests for absentee ballots. She said the last day to request an absentee ballot is October 28<sup>th</sup>. She said the last day to make any changes on your voter's registration records is October 13<sup>th</sup>. She said early voting will start October 21<sup>st</sup> and run through October 31<sup>st</sup> and will be held at the Wees Annex in Elkins and at the Russell Memorial Public Library in Mill Creek.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Scott announced that on October 1, 2020 at 3:00 p.m. a major infrastructure project will be announced. This will be an 8.5 million dollar project and almost half of it will be grant funded. He also discussed a broadband project to get faster internet to the outlying areas of the County. He said they will be adding more towers. Commissioner See said the next County Commission meeting will be held on October 1, 2020 but the time may be changed due to the announcement at 3:00 p.m. that day.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION FROM PHIL HUDOK

Phil Hudok appeared before the Commission with a 19 minute long power point presentation regarding COVID 19. He also gave the Commissioners a copy of the presentation and said it will be shown on Channel 3 this evening. He said the handling of this situation has been bad up to this point and it needs changed. He said more people died in West Virginia last year than this year before COVID 19 even started. He said the hospitals are making money from this. He said they are talking about a vaccine with lightning speed that could affect your DNA. He said vaccines are dangerous and could cause death, paralysis or other problems. Mr. Hudok wants the Commission to take this information to the Governor and the Legislatures.

Commissioner Scott said he believes COVID 19 is a pandemic but he also believes the response has been overblown. He thinks it is political. He said he doesn't wear a mask for himself but to protect other people. He said his daughter got a vaccine at 18 months old and she developed whooping cough afterwards. He said it has affected his family. He said we need to make sure the vaccines are safe. Commissioner See said they need to make sure the vaccine is not worse on people than the virus is. Rex Vance said his daughter is a traveling nurse and she will not take a vaccine. He said she has seen too many side effects they can have on people. Commissioner Scott said our local hospital is not admitting COVID 19 patients unless they need to be put on a respirator. He said they are telling them to stay at home and quarantine until better.

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT TO HUTTONSVILLE PSD BOARD

(See copy attached)

Commissioner Scott said the Huttonsville PSD Board recently had a resignation. He said two people showed an interest in filling the position. He thanked them both for applying and taking an interest.

Commissioner Scott moved to appoint Cory Weese to the Huttonsville Public Service District Board of Directors with a term beginning on September 17, 2020 and ending on June 30, 2026.

Discussion: Commissioner See said he coached Cory Weese at George Ward and he is a nice person and will do a good job.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER ELECTRICAL UPGRADES AND NEW CARPET FOR CIRCUIT COURT COURTROOM

(See copies attached)

Commissioner Scott said the Commission received a letter from Circuit Court Judge, David Wilmoth. The carpet in the courtroom is 15 to 17 years old and there is not carpet in the gallery area. He said all desks in the courtroom are serviced by one electrical outlet so there are cords going everywhere. The Commission received a quote from Hopes and Dreams Construction for the electrical upgrades in the amount of \$2,200.00. The Commissioner received a quote from Bates Carpet for \$8,295.91

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the electrical upgrade for the Circuit Court courtroom in the amount of \$2,200.00 with Hopes and Dreams Construction.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the carpet replacement for the Circuit Court courtroom in the amount of \$8,295.91 with Bates Carpet.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER FUNDING REQUEST FOR FOP CHRISTMAS PARTY

(See copy attached)

Rick George appeared before the Commission. He said every year the Fraternal Order of Police, Seneca Trail Lodge 104 holds a Christmas Party for underprivileged children. He said this will be the 28<sup>th</sup> year for this event. He said this is for children in Randolph, Barbour, Tucker, Pocahontas, Grant and Pendleton counties. He said this is the first time in all 28 years they have had to ask for any help with funding. He said they normally do fundraisers to get the donations but with COVID 19 this year the donations have went way down. He said around 300 kids are invited and usually 75-100 attend. He said every child that is invited is still sent the gifts.

Commissioner Scott moved to approve \$1,000.00 to be taken out of courthouse contractual funds for the FOP Christmas party.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER FUNDING REQUEST FOR AUTUMN ON THE DRY FORK

(See copy attached)

Rex Vance, President of the Dry Fork Recreation Center, appeared before the Commission. He said the Autumn on the Dry Fork is a fall festival they have been having since around 1998 or 1999. He said they sell chicken BBQ, pork roast, apple butter and apple cider. He said this year because of COVID 19 they will be selling meals on a drive thru basis only. He said they will have an on line auction and virtual pageant. The festival will take place on Saturday October 10, 2020.

Commissioner Scott moved to donate \$1,250.00 out of Hotel/Motel Tax funds to Dry Fork Recreation Center for the fall festival.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF GRANT ADVERTISEMENT FOR DESIGN SERVICES FOR POOL/SPLASH PAD PROJECT

Commissioner Scott said the County now owns the area that used to be the pool, at the Elks, and it is insured through the County. He said the next stage is to work on the design services. He said this is going to be paid for out of coal severance re-allocation funds and the rest of the project will be paid for from private donations, grants and coal severance funds. He said this is a half million dollar project. Commissioner Scott moved to approve the grant advertisement for design services, as discussed.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

ANNOUNCEMENT: Commissioner Scott said they forgot to announce that there is going to be an auction held at the courthouse soon. This will be for old office equipment, etc. Sheriff Brady said he will let them know when he will be able to have it.

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

County Clerk, Brenda Wiseman presented the list of Democrat poll workers to the Commission as submitted to her from the Democrat Executive Committee.  
Commissioner Scott moved to approve the Democrat poll workers, as submitted.  
All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPOINTMENT TO ELKINS-RANDOLPH COUNTY HEALTH  
DEPARTMENT BOARD

(See copy attached)

Commissioner Scott said Jeff Wood resigned from the Randolph-Elkins Health Department Board and they need to replace him. Commissioner Scott moved to appoint Ken Skinner to the Randolph-Elkins Health Department Board for a five year term beginning on November 1, 2020 and ending October 31, 2025.  
All yes – Motion passed unanimously

FINAL SETTLEMENTS:

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the 9 final settlements/annual accountings as submitted on the following estate:

Philip Charles Firl  
Walter A. Hopwood, Jr.  
Alvie Delmas Kimble  
Claudette Curry Ladika  
Carney Blake Ratliff  
Kenneth Lee Vest  
Charles Fredrick Welch, Sr.  
Martha Ruth Wilmoth  
Leona Mae Zirkle

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

BUDGET REVISIONS:

(See copy attached)

Commissioner Scott moved to approve an In House budget revision for P card reimbursement to 911 in the amount of \$2,996.30.

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:

Commissioner Scott moved to send 6 letters on the distressed properties, as recommended.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

FIRE FEE ADJUSTMENTS:

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the 8 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: \_\_\_\_\_