

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 15th day of October, 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:

Phil Hudok appeared before the Commission. He said he went to the Elks Club on Sunday for a meet and greet for the candidates and fortunately all three Sheriff candidates were there. He said another candidate was there, S. Marshall Wilson, who is running as a write-in. He said Mr. Wilson said something very important which was, the only valid reason for a government to exist is to uphold and defend our individual natural rights. He said any government that fails to do so is invalid. Mr. Wilson also said that Governor Justice's executive orders are unconstitutional. Mr. Hudok agrees that they are indeed unconstitutional. He said it is real important for all government to stand up for those rights and follow the rule of law. He said the cure for COVID-19 is worse than the virus is. He said it is the regular seasonal flu time and no one is even talking about the flu. Where did the flu go? He said the worst thing that can happen is for a mandatory vaccination for COVID-19. He said the County Commission needs to take some kind of action. He suggested the County Commission do a Resolution or take some other kind of action.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting that was held on October 1, 2020, as submitted.
All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

County Clerk, Brenda Wiseman gave a report regarding the upcoming election. She said her office has mailed out 1,826 absentee ballots and has received back 1,253 absentee ballots, so far. She said the last day to request an absentee ballot is October 28th. She said there will be a public test of the voting machines tomorrow in the courthouse lobby at 10:00 a.m. She said early voting will start October 21st and run through October 31st and will be held at the Wees Annex in Elkins and at the Russell Memorial Public Library in Mill Creek.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

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

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

HONORING LAW ENFORCEMENT FROM RANDOLPH COUNTY

Commissioner Scott said they were going to honor the retirements of Sheriff Brady and Sergeant Chris Siler from the State Police. He said in their honor what they would like to do is to send 3 State Police Officers and 3 Deputies to a special class in Charleston that is going to be happening soon. He said it is \$270.00 each for the training. Commissioner Scott moved in honor of the retirement of Sheriff Brady and Sergeant Chris Siler the County Commission would like to provide the scholarships for each officer from Randolph County to go to the special training in Charleston.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER FORMING A COMMITTEE TO EVALUATE POOL ENGINEERING PROPOSALS

Commissioner Scott said the Commission has received a couple of proposals and now needs to form a committee to review the proposals and do interviews. He said he thinks a four person committee would be sufficient. Commissioner Scott moved to appoint all three County Commissioners and Peggy Ross as the committee to evaluate the pool engineering proposals.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER THE HIRING OF A PART TIME OFFICE EMPLOYEE FOR THE UNSAFE BUILDINGS ENFORCEMENT AGENCY

Commissioner Scott said the Commission has a backlog of complaints on the unsafe buildings in the County. He said the County Commission can't do it all. There are a lot of steps involved in the process. He said the Commission would like to hire a part time non-benefited person to help with this. Commissioner Scott moved to hire Brooke Hinzman at \$15.00 per hour for a part time non-benefited position in the County Commission office to work for the Unsafe Buildings and Land Enforcement Agency, and with a starting date of October 26, 2020.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF COVID RELATED UPGRADES TO CIRCUIT COURTROOM

Commissioner Scott said the jury chairs in the courtroom are cloth and under the COVID act any cloth seats are eligible to be replaced. He said they reached out to a person from Whitmer and they have agreed to work with the Commission to get it done. They will be replaced with mongahyde that can be wiped down after each use. The cost will be \$450.00 per chair. Commissioner Scott moved to approve the Covid upgrades to the jury chairs in the circuit courtroom, as presented.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BID TO PRESSURE WASH COURT HOUSE

Commissioner Kesling said with the City of Elkins trying to keep Elkins clean he thought it would be a good time to pressure wash the main Courthouse. He said it looks tired and has black soot all over it. He said he would like to have it cleaned up before Election Day. The commission received a quote from Matt Ogden to pressure wash the courthouse. It is not to exceed \$5,500.00. Commissioner See moved to hire Matt Ogden to pressure wash the main courthouse and monuments at a cost not to exceed \$5,500.00 and it is to be paid for out of courthouse maintenance.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER SETTING DATE FOR AUCTION OF OLD COUNTY ASSETS

Commissioner Kesling said the County has a lot of old items that need sold. They have a few vehicles, desks, computers etc. He said Harvey Taylor has agreed to be the auctioneer for the Commission. Commissioner See moved to set the date of Saturday November 7, 2020 at 10:00 a.m. for the auction of old county assets.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FUNDING FOR BEVERLY LIBRARY

(See letter attached)

Commissioner Scott said the County Commission received this request before Covid but did not proceed at that time. The library contacted them back regarding this at the last meeting. He said the Elkins-Randolph County Public Library is opening a satellite office in Beverly at the Beverly Heritage Center upstairs. They are asking for funding assistance to get this up and running. Commissioner Scott moved to approve \$5,000.00 to the Elkins-Randolph County Public Library for the Beverly satellite location and that is to be paid out of Hotel/Motel Tax.

All yes - Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CLOSING OLD ESTATES PURSUANT TO HOUSE BILL 2746

(See copy attached)

County Clerk, Brenda Wiseman presented a list of two estates to the Commission that needs to be closed pursuant to house bill 2746. She said these two estates got missed when they were working on the long list of estates a few months ago and it was brought to her attention by the family. Commissioner See moved to approve the closing of the two estates, as presented.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

FINAL SETTLEMENTS:

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the 5 final settlements/annual accountings as submitted on the following estate:

Wilma Lee Burdette

Naomi Ruth Harrold

Derry Ross Haymond

Carroll C. Martin, Sr.

Emma Olivia McCleery

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

BUDGET REVISIONS:

(See copy attached)

Commissioner Scott said the Commission needs to reverse a budget revision that was done at the last meeting. It was a budget revision of \$25,000.00 for the property enforcement agency. Commissioner Scott moved to reverse the budget revision, as presented. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Scott moved to approve a State budget revision in the amount of \$25,000.00 for the property enforcement agency, as submitted.

Commissioner Scott – yes

Commissioner See – yes

Commissioner Kesling- yes

Motion passed

Commissioner Scott moved to approve an In House budget revision in the amount of \$10,055.00 from courthouse contractual to courthouse wages to cover the wages of the new part time hire.

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: None

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Commissioner See 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: _____