

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 18th day of October, 2018 at 1:30 p.m.

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

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Taylor

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Sally Adkins appeared before the Commission. She said she was there as a citizen of Randolph County. She said she lives in the upper Mingo area of the County and they have limited access to food and gas. She said it is a 30-45 minute drive to get food. She said they are in a food desert. She said she contacted Dollar General about possibly putting a store in that area but they are not interested. She asked if the County Commission could help in any way to get food and gas more accessible to the area? She said the second concern she has is the emergency services. The amount of time it takes them to get emergency services is the issue. She said she lives right on the Pocahontas County border and follows their Commission and their work and just recently she saw where they were going to begin discussions with Tucker County regarding emergency medical services funding. She said conversation should be started about crossing county lines for emergency services. She said they have a solid volunteer fire department in Valley Head but they do not have an ambulance with an EMT or paramedic at that station. The response team comes from Mill Creek. She said Mill Creek is great, but the restraints of distance are a concern. She said just over the border in Pocahontas County they have the Shavers Fork Fire Department with trained EMT's and paramedics who could possibly save a life in Randolph County because of the capability to respond sooner. She said she understands the finances are a concern but it seems to her life should be a concern as well. She said the Commission should be discussing the best way to provide services that are helpful to their communities and work out the financial aspect of it. She strongly believes that lives will be saved if adjacent counties would establish agreements to cross county emergency services. If it takes a change in legislation then get the local politicians involved and work towards that end. She said will the Commission consider establishing a dialogue with surrounding communities and/or with our State representatives regarding cross county emergency services? She said the last concern she has is with broadband and communication issues. She said in July 2016 she read in the paper where Robbie Morris had received a grant to expand broadband in rural areas. She said she was delighted about that and messaged him to see if the upper valley would be included. She received a message back and was sad to learn that they were not included. She said Robbie Morris said due to the constraints of the grant rules regarding served and un-served areas they were unable to include southern Randolph County in this round of grant funding. She said Robbie Morris said it was their intention to continue applying for this annual grant and expand the coverage area as much as they can per grant

cycle. She said there have been times when their phone service has been completely out for an entire weekend. She said that is a very scary situation for those that do not have a cell phone, even though that service is sketchy in their area. She said when you call Frontier for a service call it could take a week for them to respond. She asked the Commission if they would support the inclusion of the upper valley in any future broadband grants from the economic development authority? She also asked if they would encourage Frontier to use already strung fiber optic network to bring better internet and phone service to their area and to be more responsive to the customers in their area? She also said any help the Commission could give to the two local gentlemen who purchased the school would be appreciated.

Commissioner Taylor said that is the first time he has heard the term food desert. He knows that there was one store up there at one time but it has closed. He said he would not have a problem supporting it, but it is finding someone that would be willing to make the investment in locating a store up there. He said he would be willing to write a letter of support for that. He said for issue #2 they can set up a meeting with 911/OEM Director Cindy Hart. He said there are legal issues that they would need to discuss but he is not saying it can't be done. He said the State has such strict requirements that they have to go by now. He said for issue #3 he will speak with Robbie Morris about the broadband grants. He said a lot of that is dictated by the federal government. Commissioner Taylor said he will set up a meeting with Robbie Morris and Ms. Adkins so she can better understand the process and requirements of the grants.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the minutes of the October 4, 2018 regular meeting, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

County Clerk, Brenda Wiseman gave a report on the upcoming General Election. She said tonight her office will be holding the poll worker training at 6:00 p.m. in the courtroom and then tomorrow October 19th there will be a public test of the voting machines at 10:00 a.m. in the Courthouse lobby. She would like everyone to attend to check out the machines and ask any questions they may have. She said early voting will begin on Wednesday October 24th and run through Saturday November 3rd. This will be held at the Wees Annex and it will be open during the weekdays from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. and on Saturday October 27th and Saturday November 3rd from 9:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m. She said on Monday November 5th is the day her office and courthouse staff will be giving out the machines and supplies to the poll workers. She said then on election night November 6th everyone is invited to come to the courthouse to hear the results read out loud and get copies of the results in the courtroom as they come in. Then the next thing that is done is the canvass of the election results and that will be held on Tuesday November 13th in the County Commission meeting room and it will begin at 9:00 a.m. and the public is invited to attend that also.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner See announced that the Randolph County Solid Waste Authority is sponsoring an electronic recycling event on Saturday at the Phil Gainer event center from 9:00 to 12:00. They will take all electronics but TV's. There will be a dumpster available to put the TV's in.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

INFORMATIONAL PRESENTATION FROM JACK TRIBBLE WITH THE US FOREST SERVICE (See attached copy)

Jack Tribble appeared before the Commission. He went over with the Commission some of the things they are working on at the US Forest Service. He said they are getting ready for hunting, hiking and fishing. They are also doing timber sales and wildlife work. He said they had a big timber sale this week and are planting more trees now. He said they are putting local people to work and they are working with different environmental groups.

LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR MONONGAHELA NATIONAL FOREST SERVICE FOR THE STUART PARK TRAIL SYSTEM PROPOSAL (See attached copy)

Commissioner Taylor said each one of the Commissioners have done some research to find out what this is about. Mr. Tribble said he thinks that people want trails that are immediately available from Elkins. He said the forest service is encouraging this recreation economy. He said they want people to stay longer in our area. He said folks want to see connectivity of the trails. Commissioner Scott moved to approve the President's signature on the letter of support for the Stuart Park trail system.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A GRANT APPLICATION WITH THE RECORDS MANAGEMENT AND PRESERVATION BOARD (See attached copy)

Commissioner Taylor said this is a grant application and resolution for the Circuit Clerk in the amount of \$20,000.00, to the WV County Records Management and Preservation Board. Commissioner Scott said there will be a 10% cash match if the grant is approved. Commissioner See moved to approve the signature of President Taylor and Randolph County Clerk, Brenda Wiseman on the grant application and resolution for the Randolph County Circuit Clerk in the amount of \$20,000.00.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CONTRACT WITH THYSSENKRUP FOR MAINTENANCE ON ELEVATORS

Commissioner Scott said the Commission received a letter from the State a few weeks ago notifying them that although they had maintenance contracts on all the elevators, one of them was on a level that they do not do the inspection for the hydraulics. He said they contacted Thyssenkrup to find out what needed done. He said what Thyssenkrup proposed was to go ahead and upgrade the service on that elevator, and actually since the contracts are being combined it will save the County about \$9,000.00 a year because before there were three separate contracts. The amount of this contract is \$9,000.00 a

year at \$750.00 per month. Commissioner Scott moved to approve the signing of the maintenance contract with Thyssenkrup for the maintenance on the elevators.
All yes -- Motion passed unanimously

APPOINT FIRE BOARD MEMBERS FOR A ONE (1) YEAR TERM

(See attached copy)

Commissioner Taylor said the Randolph County Fire Board needs fire board members appointed. They will be appointed effective October 18, 2018 and will serve a one year term. They are Jeff Pritt, from the Randolph County Fire Protection Association, Lester Pritt, Citizen at Large from the Cheat Magisterial District and County Commissioner, Chris See.

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the appointments of the Randolph County Fire Board Members for a one year term, as submitted.

All yes -- Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER SIGNING A LETTER OF FINANCIAL SUPPORT FOR ADRIAN PUBLIC SERVICE DISTRICT TO EXTEND WATER SERVICE TO THE PICKENS AREA

Commissioner Scott said he has been working with the Adrian PSD over in Upshur County. They are working on a project in Upshur County and the Commission would like for them to be able to include the Pickens area in the water service extension project. Commissioner Scott said the best way for them to fast track the funding is to go ahead and get the design work done. They are hoping to have this project done in 2 ½ to 3 years. Commissioner Scott said he will also go to some other entities for financial support for this project. Commissioner See moved to approve the signing of a letter of commitment of financial support in the amount of \$25,000.00 to the Adrian PSD for water line extension project into the Pickens area.

All yes -- Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Taylor left the meeting at this time.

FINAL SETTLEMENTS:

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

Mary Kathleen Biller

Frances Margaret Lucas

Gloria Ellen Strawder

All yes -- Motion passed unanimously

BUDGET REVISIONS:

Commissioner See moved to approve a State Budget Revision to transfer \$50,000.00 from contractual services to the dog fund.

Commissioner Scott voted yes

Commissioner See voted yes

Commissioner Taylor was not present to vote

Motion passed - (After further research it was found that this budget revision was not needed.)

DIVISION OF PROPERTY /ERRONEOUS ASSESSMENTS:

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

All yes - Motion passed unanimously

FIRE FEE ADJUSTMENTS:

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the 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: _____

Randolph County Fall 2018 -Greenbrier Ranger District, Monongahela National Forest

Early Successional Habitat Partnership Work

- It's all about the partnerships
 - Division of Natural Resources / Ruffed Grouse Society
 - Division of Forestry/ Ruffed Grouse Society
 - National Wild Turkey Federation is helping out
- Get administrative hurdles cleared up and ground ready for projects
- Get most acres accomplished each year for better opportunities (hunting, birding, hiking and fishing)

Where we are working:

- Ramshorn & Little Ridge- near Green Bank
- Tygart Chestnut Ridge- above Huttonsville
- Fox Ridge- South of Glady
- Frazier Ridge- East of Glady
- Black Run Ridge- Cheat mountain

New areas on the way:

- Beulah – south of Glady -NEPA complete this late fall
- Greenbrier SE- east of Durbin -NEPA start in spring 2019

Spruce Restoration

Non-commercial spruce release on 137 acres in Upper Greenbrier

Commercial spruce restoration (tree removal timber sale) on 268 acres

- First 3 units completed this week and money stays local and will pay for 847 acres of future non-commercial spruce release and 76 acres of non-native invasive species removal over 3 years.

Mine Land Restoration

Planted 96,000 trees on Fall 2017 mineland restoration site on Mower Tract (100+acres).

Completed 90+ acres of new ground for spring 2019 planting. Working on wetlands now.

Randolph County Commission



Commissioners

Michael M. Taylor

Chris See

Mark D. Scott

October 15, 2018

Mr. Clyde Thomson, Supervisor
Monongahela National Forest
200 Sycamore Street
Elkins WV 26241

Dear Mr. Thompson,

It is my pleasure to provide this letter of support for the Stuart Park Trail System proposal being submitted to the U.S. Forest Service for consideration.

In my capacity as President of Randolph County Commission, I am in favor of the creation of this trail system. Elkins and the surrounding area, particularly "The Mon" as it is affectionately called, encompasses some of the most impressive natural beauty and outdoor opportunities around. The year-round availability and easy accessibility of this resource is of enormous benefit. Capitalizing on this for residents and tourists alike can only strengthen the health of our community and cement our future as a viable and sustainable economy.

In addition, Randolph County Commission highly values community partnerships like this one, which utilize local resources for local benefit. If there is anything more I can provide in support of this proposal, please do not hesitate to contact me.

Sincerely,

Michael M. Taylor, President

Randolph County Commission

October 18, 2018

Resolution

10-18

The County Commission of Randolph County met on October 18, 2018 with a quorum present and passed the following resolution.

Be it resolved that the County Commission hereby authorizes Michael M. Taylor, Commission President of the Randolph County Commission, to act on its behalf to enter into a contractual agreement with WV County Records Management and Preservation Board to receive and administer funds pursuant to provisions of the WV County Records Management and Preservation Board.

Signed: Brenda Wiseman
Brenda Wiseman, County Clerk

Randolph County Commission



Commissioners

Michael M. Taylor

Chris See

Mark D. Scott

The following named individuals are here by appointed to the Randolph County Fire Board effective October 18, 2018 through October 18, 2019:

Randolph County Fire Protection Association

Jeff Pritt, Beverly Volunteer Fire Department, 1-year term.

Citizens at Large from Magisterial Districts:

Lester Pritt Cheat District, 1-year term

County Commission Appointment:

Chris See, County Commissioner, 1-year term

Respectfully Submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Michael M. Taylor'.

Michael M. Taylor, President

Randolph County Commission