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 November, 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: None

MINUTES:
Commissioner Scott moved to approve the minutes of the November 1, 2018 regular meeting, as submitted.
All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS: None

CORRESPONDENCE:
Commissioner Taylor said the county commission received a letter on November 8, 2018 stating that the West Virginia Courthouse Improvement grant has been awarded to the Commission in the maximum amount of $100,000.00. He said this will be used for phase II of the roof replacement project on the main courthouse building.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:
Commissioner Taylor announced that the next meeting of the Randolph County Commission will be held on Wednesday December 5, 2018 at 1:30 p.m. He said the reason for the date change is because the West Virginia State Auditors’ office will be attending the meeting.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:
CONSIDER SIGNING A RESOLUTION FOR RANDOLPH COUNTY DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY
(See attached)
Commissioner Taylor said this is something the Commission does every year for the Randolph County Development Authority to designate them as the lead economic development organization in Randolph County. He read Resolution 11-2018 out loud.
Commissioner Scott moved to approve Resolution 11-2018, as presented.
All yes – Motion passed unanimously
CONSIDER CONTRIBUTING TO THE TYGART VALLEY HOMESTEAD ASSOCIATION FOR UPDATING ELECTRICAL WORK AT HOMESTEAD SCHOOL

Commissioner Scott said Mr. Remix from the Homestead Association came to the Commission a few meetings ago and presented some repairs and upgrades that needed to be done to the Homestead School. He gave the Commission, at the time one estimate for the electrical upgrades and they asked him to get a second estimate, which he did. Mr. Scott said since then the Commission has heard from the school board that they are getting ready to do a walk thru of Homestead School because one of the basketball teams from up the valley is going to start practicing there once it gets approved. Commissioner Scott said he recommends this be tabled until the next meeting so that they can find out more fully exactly what all needs to be done from the Fire Marshall in order for them to be able to occupy that building. Commissioner Scott moved to table this item until the next meeting.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF DATES FOR BOARD OF REVIEW AND EQUALIZATION HEARINGS FOR ASSESSOR’S OFFICE

(See attached)

Commissioner Taylor said this is standard procedure that we go through every year, no later than the 31st day of January we have to start board of review and equalization hearings. He read over the dates that have been set.

January 31, 2019  10:00 – 12:00
February 5, 2019  10:00 – 12:00
February 8, 2019  10:00-12:00
February 13, 2019  10:00-12:00
February 19, 2019  4:00 – 6:00
February 20, 2019  10:00 – 12:00

Assessor, Phyllis Yokum said the WV State Tax Department will contact her office as to what day they will be present for mineral hearings.

Commissioner See moved to approve the dates for the 2019 Board of Review and Equalization hearings, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER HELP IN FUNDING FOR ANNUAL CHRISTMAS DINNER AT MILL CREEK

(See attached)

Kaitlynn Bolyard appeared before the Commission. She said she was there on behalf of her grandfather Nick Taylor and Tygart Valley Fairs and Festivals. She thanked them for their continued support of their community activities. She said this year their annual free community Christmas Dinner will be held at the Mill Creek Senior Center on December 15th from 11:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. She said please consider their request for $5,000.00 to help with their community events. She said they also donate towards funerals and also donate hams to all of the cakewalks and auctions in their local area. She said the second page shows what their past donations have been spent on. Commissioner Taylor said
they appreciate what they do and sometimes it’s the only good hot meal that some of those folks get for Christmas. He said it is a worthy cause. Commissioner Scott said the total cost for the event appears to be around $3,200.00 and he asked what the rest of the money would be used for? Ms. Bolyard said it would be put towards the mother’s day celebration and other events they have. Commissioner Scott said they normally come and ask for funding for each event separately. Commissioner Scott moved to approve a contribution of $3,500.00, out of Hotel/Motel tax, to the Tygart Valley Fairs and Festivals annual Christmas activities.
All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER HELP IN FUNDING FOR A TRACTOR FOR RANDOLPH COUNTY RECREATION BOARD
(See attached)
Commissioner Taylor said the Randolph County REC Board made a presentation to the Commission a couple of meetings ago regarding assistance in helping purchase a tractor. He said they did advertise in the paper, as required. They only received one bid back and that was from Schrock Farm Equipment out of Oakland, Maryland. The total cost with everything is $32,500.00. Commissioner Scott said this bid that came back was for a smaller tractor than what they originally asked for. He said the Commission went back to the REC Board and asked if it was going to be big enough and have all the equipment that is needed. He said the REC Board said it would be adequate. Commissioner Scott said the Commission cannot fund the entire cost of the tractor and the REC Board has come up with $15,000.00 and asked if the Commission could help with the rest. Commissioner Taylor said the County Commission owns Camp Pioneer. Commissioner See said it is a necessity to keep the grounds looking nice. Commissioner See moved to fund $17,500.00, out of coal severance, to the Randolph County REC Board towards the purchase of a new McCormick Tractor.
All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER FUNDING REQUEST FROM MOUNTAIN ARTS DISTRICT
(See attached)
Scottie Roberts Wiest and Pat Schoonover appeared before the Commission. Ms. Wiest spoke to the Commission and thanked them for their past support. She said their website is up and going successfully and they are providing workshops for local artists. She said they are doing public art on the bathrooms at the Park and plan to do other public art projects. She said they are working with Old Brick Playhouse and others to try to do clustering designation for tourism. She said there is an interest in public art. Pat Schoonover said they have only been a non-profit organization for the past three years and she feels like they have done a lot in that amount of time. She said they are not the only ones out there trying to bring art and tourism to our area. Commissioner Taylor said he would like to see them reach into the outer areas of the County also. Ms. Schoonover said they have young people coming to them from all over the County, not just Elkins. Ms. Schoonover said they were there today to ask for $3,000.00 for the marketing of the website and to do other projects. Commissioner See moved to approve the funding request in the amount of $3,000.00, to be taken out of Hotel/Motel Tax, for the Mountain Arts District.
All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER FILING A FORMAL COMPLAINT WITH PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION AGAINST FRONTIER COMMUNICATIONS
Commissioner Scott said over the course of the last 6-9 months the Commission has been getting a lot of complaints from people about their phone service. He said a lot of the complaints have been coming from the 304-339 numbers. When Frontier is called about a problem they respond to the person’s house but never seem to be able to fix the problems. Commissioner Scott said the problem is with the main lines. He said he checked into the process and found that they can file a complaint with the Public Service Commission against Frontier Communications. Commissioner Taylor said unfortunately sometimes that is what it takes to get them to do something. He recommends drafting a letter to send to the public service commission. Assessor Phyllis Yokum said her brother lives on Middle Mountain and has been having trouble with his phone for three weeks now. This is happening all over the County not just up the valley. Commissioner Scott moved to authorize President Taylor to sign a letter of complaint to the Public Service Commission regarding Frontier Communications.
All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVING EMPLOYMENT STATUS FOR AN EMPLOYEE IN THE ASSESSOR’S OFFICE FROM FULL TIME TO PART TIME
Commissioner Scott moved to go into executive session, pursuant to WV Code 6-9A, regarding a personnel matter.
All yes – Motion passed unanimously

2:20 p.m. - Commissioner Taylor said the Commission is out of executive session with no action taken.

Commissioner See moved to approve the status of an employee in the Assessor’s Office from full time to part time at an hourly rate of $11.55 per hour non benefited.
All yes – Motion passed unanimously

FINAL SETTLEMENTS:
Commissioner Scott moved to approve the five final settlements/annual accountings as submitted on the following estates:
Gerald Allen Armstrong
Kathleen Moran Cain
Harvey Wallace Gum
Madelyn W. Hedrick
Robert Lee Shaw
All yes – Motion passed unanimously

BUDGET REVISIONS:
(See attached)
Commissioner Scott moved to approve the one State Budget Revision, as submitted. Commissioner Scott voted yes
Commissioner See voted yes
Commissioner Taylor voted 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

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 See moved to adjourn the meeting.
All yes - Motion passed unanimously

ATTEST: ___________________________
Resolution 11-2018
November 15, 2018

The Randolph County Commission met on November 15, 2018 and passed the following resolution:

Be it resolved that the Randolph County Commission has designated the Randolph County Development Authority as the lead economic development organization for our County.

We support the efforts of the Randolph County Development Authority as they seek local Economic Grants for our area.

Michael M. Taylor, President
Randolph County Commission

Chris See
Randolph County Commission

Mark Scott
Randolph County Commission
SCHEDULING FOR

2019 BOARD OF REVIEW AND EQUALIZATION HEARINGS

COUNTY  Randolph

Name and phone number for contact person (in county) to set up time and date.

Name:  Phyllis Yokum  Phone:  304-630-4109

Dates set for Board of Review and Equalization Hearings:

1/31/19  10:00 - 12:00  2/19/19  4:00 - 6:00
2/5/19  10:00 - 12:00  2/20/19  10:00 - 12:00
2/8/19  10:00 - 12:00
2/13/19  10:00 - 12:00

You may return the above requested information to my attention by either of the following:

Email: Kris.A.Pinkerman@wv.gov
Fax:  304-558-1843
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I certify that I am a farmer producing agricultural products for sale.

TAX

TOTAL

3363

All claims and returned goods MUST be accompanied by this bill.

Thank You

17,500 Coal Service
PO Box 1161  
Elkins, WV 26241  
mtnartsdistrict@gmail.com  
www.madwv.com  

November 15, 2018

Commissioners Mike Taylor, Mark Scott and Chris See  
Randolph County Courthouse Annex  
4 Randolph Avenue, #102  
Elkins, WV 26241

Dear Commissioners,

The Mountain Arts District has completed another year dedicated to furthering the development of this region as an arts destination. The Mountain Arts District does this by maintaining an online artist and venue directory and calendar, providing workshops for artists, and promoting public art.

Through its social media presence, the Mountain Arts District is building an infrastructure needed to promote local artists and art venues. All types of artists, be they painters, potters, musicians, performing artists are welcome to subscribe to this service. By having a central location by which tourists and locals can find artists, venues and the vendors that sell local art, the Mountain Arts District is enhancing the arts economy and supporting local businesses. Please see the enclosed screenshots of two artist pages and a page of a local business that benefits from the website.

The Mountain Arts District volunteers continue to market the website in various ways including rack cards at all the welcome centers on the interstate highways, at CVBs, all hotels, resorts in Tucker and Pocahontas counties. At Snowshoe, we have a video clip on Snowshoe TV and their staff is putting our rack cards in welcome packets on selected weekends. We also market the website with our Facebook page, which has an average “total post reach” of over 9,000 a month. On Facebook we promote all art events, public art ideas, resources for artists, etc.
In collaboration with the Art Center, Art Teachers in the School System, ArtsBank, Elkins Parks and Recreation, MAD coordinated the student public art in Elkins City Park. (see enclosed picture and report.) This project was funded by the Snowshoe Foundation.

Mountain Arts District volunteers also organized a workshop called “Photographing Your Art” which was funded by the Tucker County Cultural District Authority. Seventeen participants gained practical experience from a professional photographer on how to take photos that they can use in brochures and on websites. The final report for this project is in the packet.

Mountain Arts District is currently working with artists in five counties. Since it is based in Randolph County, the majority of artists and venues are here. Besides individual subscribers, there are eight venues that represent artists too numerous to count. They include the Art Center, Augusta, D&E Arts and Entertainment, Artists at Work. In addition, the Mountain Music Trail and ArtSpring share links. The area is also promoted with links to the various CVBs.

Challenge:
Succeeding in all these various ways to promote Randolph and the surrounding counties’ artists and venues takes an extreme amount of volunteer time. Over the past year and currently we support an AmeriCorps member to help us with the website, marketing and logistical support for projects. MAD’s plan is to gradually sustain the work, especially the website through subscriptions from artists, venues and sponsors. It is difficult for artists to pay even the affordable requested price, so we need to seek funding elsewhere.

MAD volunteers are doing all of this work on a budget of $10,500, with additional in-kind being provided by the board members themselves. Through subscriptions to the website and sponsors MAD is able to raise $7500. In order to meet basic marketing costs and outreach expenses, we need an additional $3000.

Anything the Commission can contribute toward this shortfall will be greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,

Scottie Roberts West
President
Mountain Arts District
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11-15-18
MS moved
MS yes
CS yes
MT yes