

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 20th day of December, 2018 at 1:00 p.m.

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

Commissioner Taylor said before the regular meeting begins there will be a hearing to accept or reject the resignation of Martha J. Gardner as Administratrix on the estate of Robert Lee Gates. (See attached copies)

Commissioner Taylor said the County Clerk has provided the Commissioners with a copy of the petition. He said they have a letter that states that the parties affected have all agreed to this.

Present at the hearing were Charles Lee Byrd, Alice McVey and R. Mike Mullens.

Attorney R. Mike Mullens said Ms. Alice McVey's brother passed away and she lives in Virginia and her other brother George lives in Charleston. He said Robert Gates' girlfriend went to the Clerk's Office and had herself appointed over the estate. He said there are some assets in the estate, a couple pieces of property, a commercial business and some personal stuff. Mr. Mullens said some friction arose and the Administratrix has agreed to resign and since Alice and George live away, Charles Byrd a long time friend of Mr. Gates has agreed to take over the administration. He said he thinks most everything has been done such as the appraisement, but mainly now it's just finishing up the sale of the property and Alice and George are the only heirs so they will get everything.

Commissioner Taylor said it appears everything is in order that the Clerk has provided to the Commission.

Commissioner See moved to accept the resignation of Martha J. Gardner, as Administratrix of the estate of Robert Lee Gates.
All yes – Motion passed unanimously

1:30 p.m. Regular Meeting

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Taylor

PUBLIC COMMENT:

John Morgan from the Cheat Potomac district of the Monongahela National Forest and Zac Adkins who is a recreation Technician who works out of the Petersburg Office ranger district, appeared before the Commission. Mr. Morgan said they were there to talk

a little bit about the Stuart Recreation area. He said they have had some public complaints this past year with how they have been managing the recreation area. He said they are trying to look at visitor satisfaction and are trying to have a good location for the public to use. He said Commissioner Taylor had some conversation with his supervisor and he said he was really just there to answer any questions that the Commission had. Commissioner Taylor said when he talked to Troy they were discussing trying to revitalize or stimulate the use of Stuarts Park. Mr. Morgan said the recreation area is primarily managed by a private company, they manage down where the picnic tables are, the large field and the campground areas. He said they have been doing that for some time, he believes they are right at the five year permit which is coming up to be renewed in 2019. He said they recently received a proposal from Highlands Trail Foundation about possibly looking at a bike system out next to Stuart recreation area. He said they really just want to try to reach out to the public and get some input of how they want to manage that area going ahead with keeping the private company or not. Commissioner Taylor said he goes out there some in the summer and it appears it is not being used as much as it used to be. He said if they would try to promote it a little bit more he thinks people would use it. He said it is a beautiful area. Mr. Morgan said he agrees and when they ran the facility with their own staff and it was a free area there was a lot more usage. He said they could no longer do that with their staff and that is when they decided to go with the private company. He said maybe they could work together with some other agencies to talk about options. Commissioner Taylor said he doesn't know if the fee is discouraging people from going out there or not but they might want to look at that. He said it is probably not a money maker with all the mowing and maintenance they have to do. He said maybe they could talk to the CVB or the Depot Center downtown to help advertise and make it known to everybody and maybe reduce the fees. Mr. Morgan said they are interested in setting down at the table with the Commission and whoever else is interested and trying to come up with some ideas. Commissioner Scott said to please let the Commission know when they would like to meet and the Commission would like to be there.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Scott moved to approve the minutes of the December 12, 2018 regular meeting, as submitted.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

Sheriff Brady said he would like to take this time to thank Mr. Taylor for his work and dedication to the citizens of Randolph County and he hopes that he has a good retirement and he wants him to enjoy his retirement and all that he chooses to do, and to wish him well in all his future endeavors.

Prosecutor Michael Parker said he wants to echo the sentiments of the Sheriff obviously this being Mr. Taylor's last meeting. He said the last seven years working with Mr. Taylor, he has been very supportive of him and his office as well as the entire Commission, and it's been a pleasure working with Mr. Taylor and he wishes him the best.

County Clerk, Brenda Wiseman said she echo's what the Sheriff and Mr. Parker said about Commissioner Taylor, and it's been a pleasure working with him all these years.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS: (See attached copy)

Commissioner Taylor announced his resignation from the County Commission effective on December 27th at midnight. He said the reason for this is that he has accepted a position with the West Virginia State Auditor's Office as an investigator. Commissioner Taylor said it's with mixed emotions and it's three days early but for logistical reasons his employment date with them is December 28th and he will report to Charleston after the first of the year. He said he will still be around and he will be involved in cases as they are assigned. Commissioner Taylor said it's been a good twelve years, he thinks the County is in a good solid financial position and it's also been a pleasure working with all the elected officials to strive to bring us where we are today.

Commissioner See said he appreciates the last ten years they have had together and they have gotten quite a few things done. Commissioner Scott congratulated Commissioner Taylor on the new position. Commissioner See thanked Commissioner Taylor for all his hard work and dedication for the past twelve years and good luck on his new position.

Commissioner Scott announced that the next meeting of the Randolph County Commission will be on January 2, 2019 at 10:00 a.m.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

RESOLUTION FOR WV COURTHOUSE FACILITIES IMPROVEMENT GRANT

(See attached copy)

Commissioner Taylor said this is Resolution #12-18 regarding the WV Courthouse Improvement Grant in the amount of \$100,000.00 to finish the courthouse roof project.

Commissioner See moved to approve Resolution #12-18, as submitted.

Commissioner Scott said it is exciting that the Commission received this for two years in a row to finish the roof on the courthouse. Michael Parker said he had a telephonic board meeting, he serves on the board, and the executive director has a trip planned here to see the roof project and the basement project.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER CHANGING NAME OF OFFICE OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT TO DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AS REQUESTED BY WEST VIRGINIA HOMELAND SECURITY OEM/911 Director Cindy Hart appeared before the Commission. She said in light of the State director changing he has been reviewing paperwork and wants all the agencies in the State to have the same name so down the road it doesn't cause problems with them getting a grant. She said they do their own letter head so they can change that and she said they will continue to wear the shirts they have until they wear out and then they would purchase more with the new name on them. She said she has already contacted the contractor on the new building and had the name changed on it. She said this will go into

effect tomorrow if approved today. Commissioner Scott moved to change the name from Randolph County Office of Emergency Management to Randolph County Department of Homeland Security.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

RECONSIDER FUNDING REQUEST FOR ELECTRICAL UPGRADE AT HOMESTEAD SCHOOL

(See attached copy)

Sonny Knaggs from the Tygart Valley Homestead Association appeared before the Commission. He said the association acquired the Homestead School property in January 2018 but still do not have a Deed but are working on getting one from the Board of Education. Mr. Knaggs said they recently had an electrical upgrade done and the Fire Marshall has approved it. He said now George Ward School will be able to use the gym for their practices. He said the cost of the electrical upgrade was \$12,200.00 and they have paid \$1,000.00 so far. Mr. Knaggs said they desperately need any help the County Commission can give them. They provided a list to the Commission of everything they still need to do. He said they have spent \$20,000.00 on this project themselves this past year. Commissioner Taylor said they have worked extra hard on this. Commissioner Scott asked if the gym floor is able to be used? Mr. Knaggs said yes it is ready for the school to use for practices. He said people are using some of the building now for things and it is also available for rent. Commissioner See said it sounds like they have come a long way. Commissioner Scott moved to approve \$11,200.00 to be taken out of Hotel/Motel Tax funds for the electrical upgrades for Tygart Valley Homestead Association.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER REVISED HOLIDAY SCHEDULE AS PROCLAIMED BY GOVERNOR JUSTICE

Commissioner Taylor said Governor Justice has declared Monday December 24th and Monday December 31st as full day holidays. He has done this by way of a proclamation. Commissioner Taylor read the proclamation out loud.

Commissioner See moved to go by the Governor's proclamation and give December 24, 2018 and December 31, 2018 as full days off.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

FINAL SETTLEMENTS:

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

Mary Jo Connor

Helen Virginia Galiyano

Marilyn Hamelman

Michael Howard Heckel

Marian Johnston Hess

Terri M. Kelley

Rufhe Catherine Ricottilli

Robert L. Shepherd

Bayard Lee Swecker
Wayne L. Teter
All yes – Motion passed unanimously

BUDGET REVISIONS:

(See copy attached)

Commissioner See moved to approve the one State budget revision, as submitted.

Commissioner See voted yes

Commissioner Taylor voted yes

Commissioner Scott 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 Scott moved to pay the bills, as submitted.

All yes - Motion passed unanimously

ADJOURN THE MEETING:

Commissioner Taylor moved to adjourn the meeting.

All yes - Motion passed unanimously

ATTEST: _____