

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 Wees Annex, on the 6th day of February, 2025 at 1:30 p.m.

Present: Randolph County Commission President David Kesling and Randolph County Commissioners, Chris Siler and Chris See

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Kesling

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MINUTES:

Commissioner See moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting that was held on January 16, 2025, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

Sheriff Elbon gave a report regarding a car wreck that two of his deputies were in. He said Deputy Aaron Beverly is back to work and doing well but has no recollection of the wreck. He said Deputy Brian Roy is still in UHC (United Hospital Center) doing in patient physical therapy. He might get out next week. Sheriff Elbon said his recovery is still going to be 4-8 months.

911/OEM Office Staff, Rob Daman appeared before the Commission. He reported that back on January 25<sup>th</sup> the 911/OEM lost low band radios which disabled their ability to tone/dispatch three Fire Departments. Premier Construction Towers Company came and worked on the towers at Bickle's Knob and Rich Mountain. He said Premier Construction along with Zane Hammack were able to get it up and running after being down for 4 days. He said they have not received a bill yet from Premier Construction. He reported that on Friday January 31<sup>st</sup> there was a flood warning and flood watch for our area. He said they were out monitoring all the rivers and small streams throughout the County. He said several roadways were temporarily closed due to high water. He said they worked with DOH and informed them of high water in roads so they could put signs up. He said there was also an ice jam that broke at the Cheat Bridge and they put out an alert via Nixle and across dispatch frequencies and notified the local radio station to broadcast the information. He said they drove to Bemis along with the Beverly Fire Department to advise everyone who lives there to keep an eye on the river and evacuate if necessary. He said the final report for the air quality testing at Elkins Middle School has been completed and sent to all parties that were involved. He said they received the money from the insurance company from the claim that was sent regarding the damages from the power surge caused by high winds back on October 27, 2024. He said they still need to purchase an Amateur Radio (HAM radio) for the OEM/911 Center in case radio communications would go out. He said they have a memorandum of understanding for the Commission to look over and a copy has been sent to Michael Parker to review. This is for the Amateur Radio Emergency Service (ARES) and the Office of Emergency Management. He provided the address and phone number of the Randolph County Homeless Shelter in case anyone needs to go there. It is open 24 hours a day. He said the Refinery Church opened a warming shelter from January 19 through January 22<sup>nd</sup>. He said the Office of Emergency Management has established designated sites for emergency shelters in the event of long-term power outages. He said the power company would notify the OEM and then they would open up the shelters. He said it would be posted on their Facebook page. He said they are having an issue with the electric hot water heater and the OEM/911 Center. He said the breaker trips and they have to reset it. They would like the maintenance crew to come look at it. He said they received the Frontier Contract in the amount of \$43,856.98 and have an invoice for it and received the Motorola Invoice for \$44,818.74. He also spoke about Costo Technical and said every time they come to work on something they get a bill for \$1,700.00. He said he doesn't know if this is something the Commission could look into with the contract with them. He said there is flooding going on again today and there had to be a water rescue in the Huttonsville/Mill Creek area. He said when he leaves the meeting he will going back out around the County to check the flooding situation.

Ron Andro, Chief Administrative Officer at Davis Health System appeared before the Commission. He said he wanted to come introduce himself to the Commission since he is new and has only been here 90 days. He said he has been going around attending other meetings and meeting everyone. He discussed some ideas he had for some property that Davis Health System owns in the County.

Commissioner Kesling reported on the emergency closing plan and said when the Governor declares a state of emergency it is not a Holiday. He said they closed the courthouse for the safety of the employees. He said the state offices were still open. He said they closed the courthouse complex due to weather and they still have to get clarification on it. He just wanted to let everyone know it is not a Holiday. He said they are also looking into the Comp time with their HR representative. He said with PEIA going up they may have to make some changes to the Comp time policy. He said BHM CPA group who is going to conduct the audit this year was scheduled to come on February 24, 2025. He said they are requesting to have an extension due to scheduling issues. He said the new deadline would be from February 28, 2025 to March 24, 2025. He also reported that the Commission had asked the Humane Officer to supply them with numbers of how many calls he received for in the City of Elkins and how many for out in the County. He reported that he had 34 calls from January 6th to February 6th in which 10 were in the City of Elkins and 24 were in the County.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Kesling announced the Courthouse will be closed on Monday February 17, 2025 for Presidents Day. He announced the next meeting of the County Commission will be held on February 20, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. in the Wees Annex. He announced that an Opioid Committee meeting will also be held on February 20, 2025 at 3:00 p.m. in the Wees Annex.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF TERRA FLORA MAINTENANCE PROPOSAL

Commissioner Kesling said the Commission received an estimate from Terra Flora Landscaping for spring, summer, fall and winter for all the Courthouse building and up at the pool location. He said they do clean up and provide flowers. He said for the full year it would be \$7,227.77. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the estimate from Terra Flora Landscaping in the amount of \$7,227.77. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF WHITMER FIRE DEPARTMENTS FUNDING REQUEST (See copy attached)

Captain Johnathan Turner from the Whitmer Fire Department appeared before the Commission. He said they are asking for funding to help complete their new fire station. He said the project was delayed due to unexpected expenses of the fire suppression system. He said they plan to use the new fire station as a warming station during natural disasters. Commissioner Kesling said they discussed this with the Opioid Committee and everyone agreed they could use some of that money for this project. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the funding request from Whitmer Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$58,850.00 for their new fire station and that is to be taken out of Opioid Funding. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER RATIFICATION OF SIGNATURES ON ZONING LETTER FOR JASS VIDEO INVESTMENTS, LLC

Commissioner Kesling said the Commission received a request from Jass Video Investments, LLC for a no zoning regulations letter for the ABCC Office. He said this is for the High Life Lounge and both of the locations are located outside of the Elkins city limits. Commissioner See moved to approve the ratification of signature on the no zoning letter for Jass Video Investments, LLC. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF 911'S GST CONTRACT

Rob Daman from the OEM/911 Center appeared before the Commission. He said this is the contract with Global Science and Technology for them to come work on their computers and equipment at the 911 Center. This contract is for \$1,075.67 per month. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the 911/OEM contract with Global Science and Technology in the amount of \$1075.67 per month, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FUNDING AGREEMENT FOR VOCA GRANT POSITION

Commissioner Kesling said Prosecuting Attorney Michael Parker reached out to the Commission when he heard about the pause of Federal Financial Assistance. He has one position in his Office that is funded by a Department of Justice grant. He said he was worried about the funding freeze made by President Trump. Commissioner Kesling said the freeze was lifted so no action needs taken today, but in the future if this would happen, the Commission would provide funding for that position as it is a very vital position in the Prosecuting Attorney's Office.

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF NEW HIRE FOR COURT SECURITY OFFICER (See copy attached)

Sheriff Robert R. Elbon, Jr. appeared before the Commission. He said he would like to request the approval to hire C J Golden as a full-time benefited Court Security Officer. His beginning probationary salary will be \$28,454.40 annually/\$13.68 per hour. He said after he completes his 90 day probationary period his salary would go up to \$29,952.00 annually/\$14.40 per hour. He said a background investigation was completed in which he successfully passed. He said the money is already in his budget for this position and Mr. Golden can begin working on Monday February 10, 2025. Commissioner See moved to approve the hiring of C J Golden as a Court Security Officer, as presented. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF 4-H FUNDING REQUEST

Commissioner Kesling said the 4-H had come to the Commission before about funding for bathrooms at the main building up at 4-H Camp Pioneer. The Commission approved their request up to \$72,000.00. There are two invoices today which total \$60,000.00. He said there would still be \$12,000.00 left for them to spend, if needed. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the two invoices for the 4-H Camp Pioneer bathroom project. He said \$55,000.00 is to be taken out of the Community Development line and \$5,000.00 is to be taken out of the Hotel/Motel tax line. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BEVERLY HERITAGE FUNDING REQUEST

Commissioner Kesling said the Commission received a letter from the Beverly Heritage Center requesting their \$25,000.00 from the second half budget of the hotel/motel tax for the period from July through December 2024. Commissioner See moved to approve the funding request from the Beverly Heritage Center in the amount of \$25,000.00 to be taken out of Hotel/Motel Tax funds. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF SILLING FUNDING ALLOTMENT

Commissioner Kesling said they are looking at an expansion project for the Courthouse Complex. He said we need something that will last for the next 50 years. He said they met with Silling Architects and went over some ideas they had, then they met with the other elected officials and asked what they needed. He said then Silling presented drawings of what a new Judicial Annex would look like and what the cost would be. He said for the work they have done so far they have submitted an invoice for \$36,990.00. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the payment to Silling Architects in the amount of \$36,990.00 and that is to be taken out of Coal Reallocation funds. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FIDUCIARY COMMISSIONERS REPORT ON THE ESTATE OF MARCELLO AUGUSTO VACHE

Randolph County Fiduciary Commissioner, John J. Wallace, IV appeared before the Commission. He said Mr. Marcello Vache passed away 3 years ago today. His daughter was appointed over his estate but has

not closed the estate. Mr. Wallace said he sent her notices but she will not cooperate. He said he doesn't want her removed from the estate but would like the Commission to send her a notice to show cause why the estate should not be closed. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the recommendation of Fiduciary Commissioner John J. Wallace, IV regarding the estate of Marcello Vache, as presented. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### FINAL SETTLEMENTS:

Commissioner See moved to approve the (5) Final Settlements, as submitted.

Kimberly S. Been

Frances Dee Clark

Jon Ward Parrack

Cynthia Dawn Reel

Schonna Louise White

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### BUDGET REVISIONS: (6) (See attached copies)

Commissioner Siler moved to approve an In House Budget Revision in the amount of \$3,000.00. This is to increase County Commission contracted services line. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Siler moved to approve an In House Budget Revision in the amount of \$2,000.00. This is to increase 911 Dues and Subscriptions line. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve a State Budget Revision in the amount of \$20,460.21 to increase contractual services due to an insurance recovery. Commissioner Kesling voted yes, Commissioner Siler voted yes, Commissioner See voted yes. Motion passed

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve a State Budget Revision in the amount of \$2,037.56 to increase Courthouse Contractual Services which is a transfer from other funds. Commissioner Kesling voted yes, Commissioner Siler voted yes, Commissioner See voted yes. Motion passed

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve a State Budget Revision in the amount of \$80,401.42 to increase Courthouse Contractual Services which is a transfer from other funds. Commissioner Kesling voted yes, Commissioner Siler voted yes, Commissioner See voted yes. Motion passed

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve a State Budget Revision in the amount of \$4,478.53 to increase County Clerk Wages, FICA, Medicare, Retirement and Benefits to increase wage of bookkeeper who is assisting another office until June 30, 2025. Commissioner Kesling voted yes, Commissioner Siler voted yes, Commissioner See voted yes. Motion passed

#### DIVISION OF PROPERTY/ERRONEOUS ASSESSMENTS:

Commissioner See moved to approve the division of property and erroneous assessments, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

DISTRESSED PROPERTIES: None

#### FIRE FEE ADJUSTMENTS:

Commissioner See moved to approve the 108 fire fee adjustments, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Kesling moved to hold 42 Fire Fee appeals and not approve until they can be reviewed. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Commissioner See moved to pay the bills, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

ADJOURN THE MEETING:

Commissioner Siler moved to adjourn the meeting. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Attest: \_\_\_\_\_



# WHITMER VOL. FIRE DEPT.

586 Little Italy Rd. Harman WV, 26270

Johnathan Turner  
Whitmer Volunteer Fire Department  
586 Little Italy Rd.  
Harman, WV 26270  
304-704-1119

858850  
6p10.0

Dear, Randolph County Commissioners

On behalf of the Whitmer VFD I would like to say Thank You for everything you do for the communities you serve. Without your support a lot of community projects would not get completed.

As you know I presented a letter in the past asking for funds to help complete our new fire station that will be utilized as a warming station during natural disasters. Some to the projects that was delayed due to the unexpected expense of the fire suppression system is, a 20x30 training room, a office space, bunk room, emergency exit from the second story, Handicap accessible shower, and work out room. Some expense still remains and the remainder will be paid off once funds are established.

Once again I would like to say Thank You on behalf of the Whitmer Volunteer Fire Department for everything you do for everyone within Randolph County.

Thank You Again

Sincerely;

Johnathan Turner

Office of the  
**SHERIFF OF RANDOLPH COUNTY**

**Law Enforcement**

32 Randolph Avenue  
Suite 201  
Elkins, WV 26241

Web: RandolphSheriff.wv.gov  
Phone: (304) 636-2111  
Fax (304) 630-0467



**Tax Office**

4 Randolph Avenue  
Suite 100  
Elkins, WV 26241

Web: wvpropertytaxes.com  
Phone: (304) 636-2100  
Fax (304) 636-2093

**Robert R. Elbon Jr., Sheriff**

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January 23, 2025

To: The Randolph County Commission  
RE: Request to hire CJ Golden

I respectfully request the approval to hire CJ Golden as a full time benefited probationary court security officer. If approved, his beginning probationary salary will be \$28,454.40 annually/\$13.68 per hour. After successful completion of a ninety-day probationary period, the salary will adjust to \$29,952.00 annually/\$14.40 per hour.

Mr. Golden is a current resident of the Elkins area of Randolph County. A background investigation was completed by our Office, which he successfully passed. Mr. Golden is available to begin work with the Sheriff's Office anytime pending approval.

Respectfully,

Robert R. Elbon Jr.  
Sheriff

# Randolph County Commission

## IN-HOUSE BUDGET REVISION

2/6/2025

|                      |                        |
|----------------------|------------------------|
| Reason for Revision: | Budget Line Correction |
|----------------------|------------------------|

### REVENUES:

| ACCOUNT NUMBER | Account Name | PREVIOUSLY APPROVED |        | INCREASE | DECREASE | REVISED |        |
|----------------|--------------|---------------------|--------|----------|----------|---------|--------|
|                |              | AMOUNT              | AMOUNT |          |          | AMOUNT  | AMOUNT |
|                |              |                     |        |          |          |         |        |
|                |              |                     |        |          |          |         |        |
|                |              |                     |        |          |          |         |        |
|                |              |                     |        |          |          |         |        |

### EXPENDITURES:

| ACCOUNT NUMBER  |                         | PREVIOUSLY APPROVED |        | INCREASE   | DECREASE | REVISED |        |
|-----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|--------|------------|----------|---------|--------|
|                 |                         | AMOUNT              | AMOUNT |            |          | AMOUNT  | AMOUNT |
| 001-401-2-30.00 | CO COMM Contracted Serv |                     |        | \$3,000.00 |          |         |        |
| 001-401-1-08.00 | CO COMM OVERTIME        |                     |        | \$3,000.00 |          |         |        |
|                 |                         |                     |        |            |          |         |        |
|                 |                         |                     |        |            |          |         |        |
|                 |                         |                     |        |            |          |         |        |
|                 |                         |                     |        |            |          |         |        |

Total: \$3000.00

2-6-2025  
 C siles moved  
 C siles yes  
 D Kesling yes  
 C see yes

**REVENUES:**

1/23/2025

| ACCOUNT NUMBER                        | ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION | PREVIOUSLY APPROVED |  | 1/23/2023 |                |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|---------------------|--|-----------|----------------|
|                                       |                     | AMOUNT              |  | INCREASE  | DECREASE       |
|                                       |                     |                     |  |           | REVISED AMOUNT |
|                                       |                     |                     |  |           |                |
|                                       |                     |                     |  |           |                |
|                                       |                     |                     |  |           |                |
| TOTAL INCREASE / (DECREASE) REVENUES: |                     |                     |  |           | 0              |

PREVIOUSLY APPROVED

[illegible]

membership fee increase

2-6-2025  
C Siler moved  
C Siler yes  
D Kesting yes  
C see yes

1/27/2025

| ACCOUNT NUMBER                        | PREVIOUSLY APPROVED |        | DECREASE    | REVISED AMOUNT |
|---------------------------------------|---------------------|--------|-------------|----------------|
|                                       | ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION | AMOUNT |             |                |
| 001-382-90-5                          | Insurance Recovery  |        | \$20,460.21 |                |
|                                       |                     |        |             |                |
|                                       |                     |        |             |                |
|                                       |                     |        |             |                |
| TOTAL INCREASE / (DECREASE) REVENUES: |                     |        |             | 0              |

**EXPENDITURES:**

[illegible]

Reason for Revision:

Insurance claim

2-16-2025

DK moved

DK yes

liter yes

c see yes

# Randolph County Commission

## STATE BUDGET REVISION

2/6/2025

Reimbursement

Reason for Revision:

### REVENUES:

| ACCOUNT NUMBER | Account Name              | PREVIOUSLY APPROVED |  | INCREASE   | DECREASE | REVISED<br>AMOUNT |
|----------------|---------------------------|---------------------|--|------------|----------|-------------------|
|                |                           | AMOUNT              |  |            |          |                   |
| 001-388-900    | Transfer from other funds |                     |  | \$2,037.56 |          |                   |
|                |                           |                     |  |            |          |                   |
|                |                           |                     |  |            |          |                   |
|                |                           |                     |  |            |          |                   |

### EXPENDITURES:

| ACCOUNT NUMBER  |                          | PREVIOUSLY APPROVED |  | INCREASE   | DECREASE | REVISED<br>AMOUNT |
|-----------------|--------------------------|---------------------|--|------------|----------|-------------------|
|                 |                          | AMOUNT              |  |            |          |                   |
| 001-424-2-30.00 | Courthouse Contract Serv |                     |  | \$2,037.56 |          |                   |
|                 |                          |                     |  |            |          |                   |
|                 |                          |                     |  |            |          |                   |
|                 |                          |                     |  |            |          |                   |
|                 |                          |                     |  |            |          |                   |

Total: \$2037.56

2-6-2025  
DK moved  
DK yes  
CSiler yes  
C see yes

# Randolph County Commission

## STATE BUDGET REVISION

2/6/2025

|                      |               |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Reason for Revision: | Reimbursement |
|----------------------|---------------|

### REVENUES:

| ACCOUNT NUMBER | Account Name              | PREVIOUSLY APPROVED<br>AMOUNT | INCREASE    | DECREASE | REVISED<br>AMOUNT |
|----------------|---------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|----------|-------------------|
| 001-388-900    | Transfer from other funds |                               | \$80,401.42 |          |                   |
|                |                           |                               |             |          |                   |
|                |                           |                               |             |          |                   |
|                |                           |                               |             |          |                   |

### EXPENDITURES:

| ACCOUNT NUMBER  | Account Name             | PREVIOUSLY APPROVED<br>AMOUNT | INCREASE    | DECREASE | REVISED<br>AMOUNT |
|-----------------|--------------------------|-------------------------------|-------------|----------|-------------------|
| 001-424-2-30.00 | Courthouse Contract Serv |                               | \$80,401.42 |          |                   |
|                 |                          |                               |             |          |                   |
|                 |                          |                               |             |          |                   |
|                 |                          |                               |             |          |                   |
|                 |                          |                               |             |          |                   |
|                 |                          |                               |             |          |                   |

Total: \$80,401.42

2-6-2025  
DK moved  
DK yes  
CSiler yes  
C see yes

| A  | B                                         | C                            | D                       | E                | F          | G       |
|----|-------------------------------------------|------------------------------|-------------------------|------------------|------------|---------|
| 1  | State Budget Revision                     |                              |                         | February 6, 2025 |            |         |
| 2  | REVENUES:                                 |                              |                         |                  |            |         |
| 3  |                                           |                              | PREVIOUSLY APPROVED     |                  |            |         |
| 4  | Account Number                            | ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION          | AMOUNT                  | INCREASE         | DECREASE   | REVISED |
| 5  |                                           |                              |                         |                  |            |         |
| 6  |                                           |                              |                         |                  |            |         |
| 7  |                                           |                              |                         |                  |            |         |
| 8  | TOTAL INCREASE / (DECREASE) REVENUES:     |                              |                         | \$0.00           | 0          |         |
| 9  |                                           |                              |                         |                  | 0          |         |
| 10 | EXPENDITURES:                             |                              |                         |                  |            |         |
| 11 |                                           |                              | PREVIOUSLY APPROVED     |                  |            |         |
| 12 | ACCOUNT NUMBER                            | ACCOUNT DESCRIPTION          | AMOUNT                  | INCREASE         | DECREASE   | REVISED |
| 13 |                                           |                              |                         |                  | \$4,478.53 | AMOUNT  |
| 14 | 001-402-103-00                            | County Clerk Wages           |                         | \$3,539.25       |            |         |
| 15 | 001-402-104-00                            | County Clerk Fica            |                         | \$219.43         |            |         |
| 16 | 001-402-104-01                            | County Clerk Medicare        |                         | \$51.32          |            |         |
| 17 | 001-402-106-00                            | County Clerk Retirement      |                         | \$318.53         |            |         |
| 18 | 001-402-110-00                            | County Clerk Fringe Benefits |                         | \$350.00         |            |         |
| 19 |                                           |                              |                         |                  |            |         |
| 20 |                                           |                              |                         |                  |            |         |
| 21 |                                           |                              |                         |                  |            |         |
| 22 |                                           |                              |                         |                  |            |         |
| 23 |                                           |                              |                         |                  |            |         |
| 24 |                                           |                              |                         |                  |            |         |
| 25 |                                           |                              |                         |                  |            |         |
| 26 | TOTAL INCREASE / (DECREASE) EXPENDITURES: |                              |                         | \$4,478.53       | \$4,478.53 |         |
| 27 | 2-6-2025 DK moved                         |                              |                         |                  |            |         |
| 28 | Bookkeeping wage increase for             |                              | Angela Barrickman until |                  | 6/30/2025  |         |
| 29 | To assist Sheriff's Office                |                              |                         |                  |            |         |
| 30 | CS 10/2/25 yes                            |                              |                         |                  |            |         |