

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 18th day of June, 2025 at 1:30 p.m.

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

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 June 5, 2025, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

Randolph County Court Security Officer, Kenny Watson gave a report to the Commission. He said this is just a partial report for the month of May, 2025. He said they scanned 735 people coming into the buildings, 72 knives confiscated and given back, 2 guns, inmates transferred into their custody was 65 and total of papers processed was 172. He said for June they will have a full report. He said they sent 3 guys to training the first of May so that made them short-handed but they have been able to maintain everything. He said everybody is doing a good job. He said the Attorney room in the James Cain Annex does not have the speaker system set up yet and they have to talk to them in the Jury room. Commissioner Kesling said they will get that fixed. It was supposed to have a speaker thru the window.

Sheriff Elbon reported that Peggy Ross has been talking to him about getting the holding cells with grant money available. He said he is doing the measurements on those and will be talking to the vendors so they can get those ordered.

Sheriff Elbon reported on the Mountain Region Drug and Violent Crimes Task Force activity. He said for 2024 they had 165 new investigations, 78 felony arrests with 213 counts, 7 misdemeanor arrests with 13 counts, 165 criminal investigations, money spent for controlled purchases was \$22,668.67 in which they had a grant for \$20,000.00 of. He said they conducted 165 controlled buys/drug seizures with a value of \$447,670.00. He said property seized were 2 vehicles, 2 houses and cash and firearms. He said they seized 2,417 grams of Fentanyl, 6 grams of Cocaine, 6 grams of Crack Cocaine, 5 grams of Heroin, 2,385 grams of Meth, 21.09 pounds of Marijuana. He said they seized 31 firearms. He said those guys are very active, but nobody sees them or knows what they are doing, but they are making a difference. He said there is a house that was a known drug house and it has been seized and is up for bids for sale right now. He said they have a DEA and a ATF agent that is assigned to them and they come here and work. He discussed the vape shops in the area being hit again but said he can't give out much information because it is still an active case but arrest warrants will be issued shortly. Commissioner Kesling said Putnam County has an Ordinance regarding vape shops and placing restrictions on them. He said he sent a copy to Prosecuting Attorney Michael Parker to review to see if that is something Randolph County could possibly do. He said this would only be for the ones out of the City Limits. Sheriff Elbon said there is one vape shop located on property that he owns but the man that runs it is a good person and Sheriff Elbon told him up front that no illegal activity will be tolerated and if any occurs he will be arrested.

North Central Community Corrections Director, Erin Golden appeared before the Commission. She reported that there are currently 101 participants on the program and the program has saved the County \$1,736,016.96 in regional jail bills so far this fiscal year. She said they are currently setting up interviews to fill a vacancy in her office because Rodney Vandevender left last month. She said the grant presentation went very well but she hasn't heard back yet as to what they will be receiving in grant funds. She said one DRC in the State shut down so possibly those funds will be split up between the existing ones.

911/OEM Director Mike Miller appeared before the Commission. He said the recent flooding was not bad in our County as it was in other areas in the State. He said the worse problem was culverts not draining properly and the DOH had to go take care of that.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Kesling announced that the next meeting of the County Commission will be held on June 26, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. He said this will be the last day to turn in bills to be written for this fiscal years budget. The new fiscal year begins on July 1, 2025.

Commissioner Kesling announced that the Courthouse complex will be closed on June 19<sup>th</sup> and June 20<sup>th</sup> for Juneteenth and West Virginia Day.

Commissioner Kesling announced that the Opioid Board meeting is today June 18<sup>th</sup> at 3:00 p.m.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF DESIGNATION OF DEPOSITORIES FOR FY 25-26

Commissioner Kesling said every new Fiscal Year the County has to designate the banks we use for the County funds. Those banks are Davis Trust Company, Mountain Valley Bank and Citizens Bank of WV. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the designation of depositories for FY 25-26 as presented. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF RATIFICATION OF USE OF COURTHOUSE GROUNDS FOR THE RANDOLPH COUNTY DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Commissioner Kesling said he was approached by Cindy Stemple, Chairman of the Randolph County Democrat Executive Committee, about using the Courthouse Lawn for an event. He said the Commission had no objection to that. He said it was reported that about 350 people attended the event and there were no issues or problems. Commissioner See moved to ratify the use of the courthouse lawn for the Randolph County Democratic Executive Committee. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE FY 26 WV CORP. INSURANCE RENEWAL

Commissioner Kesling said this the WV Corp. Insurance with the WV Risk Pool that the County has. He said their Administrative Assistant, Melinda Lott went through it and added things such as the IGA rental, updated buildings at the 4-H Camp, added the Almost Heaven Swing, took off old vehicles we no longer have and added new ones we do have. Commissioner See moved to approve the renewal of the WV Corp./WV Risk Pool Insurance for FY 2026, as presented. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE TITLE TRANSFER FOR RANDOLPH ELKINS HEALTH DEPARTMENT TRAILER TO THE RANDOLPH COUNTY 911/OEM OFFICE (See letter attached)

Commissioner Kesling said Linda Sanders, Administrator of the Randolph Elkins Health Department sent the Commission a letter regarding a trailer that they would like to transfer to the 911/OEM Center. The trailer includes a canopy-type tent, generator, heater and various other pieces of equipment. Ms. Sanders said it is heavy and hard to move from place to place. She said neither the trailer or tent can be used by the staff at the health department for outreach activities. She said this was granted to them by the State of West Virginia. Commissioner See moved to approve the transfer of title of a trailer and accessories from the Randolph Elkins Health Department to the Randolph County 911/OEM Office, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE RANDOLPH COUNTY TASK FORCE

Commissioner Kesling said the HIDTA grant funding may be cut. He said there are proposed changes in the FY2026 federal budget that would significantly impact the High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas (HIDTA) program and the Office of National Drug Control Policy (ONDCP) oversight. He said the Commission is going to send letters to Senators Jim Justice and Shelly Moore Capito to express their



concerns and ask for them to oppose any legislative or budgetary actions that would disrupt or defund the HIDTA program or remove ONDCP's oversight. Commissioner Siler moved to approve sending letters of support for the Randolph County Task Force, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF LEASE AGREEMENT WITH THE MASONIC LODGE FOR PARKING (See copy attached)

Commissioner Kesling said it is time the renew the lease agreement with the Masonic Lodge for use of their parking lot. He said they have been reviewing it and there are only 4 cars parking there. He said they now have use of the Old IGA parking lot and also the Prosecuting Attorney's Office staff is no longer parking there. He said he doesn't think the Commission should continue with this lease. He said they must provide 60 days formal notice to terminate the Lease. He said if they do that today the 60 days would be up on August 18, 2025. Sheriff Elbon said the cruisers have been moved off the lot and down to the Old IGA lot, the SRT Vehicle can be moved and the Health Department vehicle can be moved. He said he has a couple old cars that do not start but he can work on getting those moved. Commissioner Siler said he is a member of the Masonic Lodge so he will abstain from voting on this. Commissioner See moved to approve to terminate the lease agreement with the Masonic Lodge #108 effective August 18, 2025. Commissioner See voted yes, Commissioner Kesling voted yes, Commissioner Siler abstained. Motion passed

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FUNDING REQUEST FROM THE BEVERLY FIRE DEPARTMENT FOR THE 2025 BEVERLY FIREMAN'S FESTIVAL

Commissioner Kesling said the Commission received a letter from Robert Phillips from the Beverly Festival Committee Members requesting funding for the 2025 Beverly Fireman's Festival which will be held July 19<sup>th</sup> through July 26<sup>th</sup>. Commissioner See said the Commission has helped with this for several years and they have a really nice fireworks display. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the funding request from the Beverly Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$2,500.00 and that is to be taken out of Hotel/Motel Tax funds. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FUNDING REQUEST FOR THE WV SPECIAL OLYMPICS OF RANDOLPH COUNTY

Commissioner Kesling said the Commission received a letter from Beverly Wine, Randolph County Special Olympics Coordinator. They are requesting funding to help allow the athletes to participate in local, state, national and even International events. Commissioner Kesling said the Commission has been helping with funding for this for several years now. Commissioner See moved to approve the funding request from Randolph County Special Olympics in the amount of \$2,500.00 and that is to be taken out of Hotel/Motel Tax funds. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF A WAGE INCREASE FOR NORTH CENTRAL COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS EMPLOYEES

North Central Community Corrections Director, Erin Golden appeared before the Commission. She said the Board met last week and discussed and agreed upon giving all the employees a 3% increase in pay. She said this will be for the 2025-2026 FY and the funding will be taken out of the Community Corrections Fund (072). Commissioner Kesling said he serves on that board and the money will come out of their money, not the county. He said they have quite a bit of money saved up because of uncertainty of grant money. They want to have a good nest egg. Ms. Golden said they are having a problem with turnover of employees because of pay. Commissioner See moved to approve a 3% wage increase for North Central Community Corrections employees, as presented. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

FINAL SETTLEMENTS:

Commissioner See moved to approve the (7) Final Settlements, as submitted.

Roger Lee Arbogast

Larry S. Barger

Gary W. McGee

Richard B. Ours

Mabel D. Phares

Marie F. Schoonover

Delford Price Sharp

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

**BUDGET REVISIONS: (8)**

Commissioner See moved to approve an In House Budget revision for the North Central Community Corrections Office in the amount of \$1.00. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Siler moved to approve an In House Budget revision for the Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$1,100.00 to increase equipment and equipment rental. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner See moved to approve an In House Budget revision for the Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$31.88 to increase bank and other fees line. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Siler moved to approve an In House Budget revision for the Sheriff's Office in the amount of \$6,250.00 to increase Law Enforcement FICA, Medicare & Overtime lines. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Siler moved to approve an In House Budget revision for the County Commission Office in the amount of \$9,000.00 to increase utilities, bonds & contractual services. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Siler moved to approve an In House Budget revision for the County Commission Office in the amount of \$4,000.00 to increase wages, fica, medicare & retirement lines. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Siler moved to approve an In House Budget revision for the Dog Warden in the amount of \$1,043.25 to increase Dog Warden contractual services line. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Siler moved to approve an In House Budget revision for the General School Audit Cost in the amount of \$15,000.00 to revise to actual in lines. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

**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:** 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: \_\_\_\_\_

Mary S. Boyd, MD  
Medical Director

Linda S. Sanders  
Administrator



Board Members  
Diana Patella  
Ken Skinner  
Joan Sharp  
Carolyn Jackson  
James Filler

June 5, 2025

Randolph County Commission  
4 Randolph Avenue, Suite 102  
Elkins, West Virginia 26241

Member of Randolph County Commission

The state of West Virginia granted Randolph-Elkins Health Department title to a trailer to be used for emergency response in Randolph County, or other areas as deemed necessary. This trailer includes a canopy-type tent, generator, heater, and various other pieces of equipment. It is heavy enough to require a truck, or other heavy-duty vehicle to move it from place to place. The drive through tent is so large it requires several men to erect it. Neither the vehicle, nor the tent, can be used by the staff at the health department for outreach activities.

The trailer, with all equipment, has been parked at Randolph County 911/OEM Center since it was received by the health department. The Randolph County Board of Health wishes to transfer title to the 911 Center and that the trailer and its contents be available for use by that agency and other emergency responders in Randolph County. We are requesting approval from the commission for the transfer of title and instructions on what we need to do to get permission for this action.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Linda S. Sanders".

Linda S. Sanders  
Administrator



# Randolph County Commission



## Commissioners

David L. Kesling

Chris See

Christopher Siler

June 18, 2025

Elkins Lodge No. 108  
P.O. Box 741  
Elkins, WV 26241

Dear Members of Elkins Lodge No. 108,

The Randolph County Commission is providing formal notice of our intent to terminate the current lease agreement with Elkins Lodge No. 108. In accordance with the terms of the lease, this letter serves as our 60-day written notice of termination.

The lease agreement will officially be cancelled effective **August 18, 2025**. We will continue to pay the monthly rent of **\$500** for the months of **July and August 2025**.

We appreciate the working relationship we have had throughout the duration of the lease and thank you for your cooperation and understanding during this transition.

If you have any questions or need further information, please feel free to contact our office.

Sincerely,

**David L. Kesling**  
President

**Chris See**  
Commissioner

**Christopher Siler**  
Commissioner

4 Randolph Avenue - Suite 207 - Elkins, West Virginia 26241 - Phone (304) 636-2057  
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