

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 Commission Annex, on the 21st day of August, 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 August 7, 2025, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

Sheriff Elbon appeared before the Commission. He said Ryder Schoonover passed the physical agility test at the State Police Academy so he will begin Monday morning at the State Police Academy.

Mike Miller, 911/OEM Director appeared before the Commission. He said the two UPS units at the 911 center need batteries and one needs a power module. He said these are uninterruptible power systems that provide power during a power outage, regulates abnormal voltages and protects the equipment from damage due to surges and line noise. He said these UPS battery backups are critical for the servers at the 911 Center. The cost for this would be approximately \$63,599.12. He said he had Jared Jenkins with him today to talk to the Commission about the logging recorder. He said Rob Daman is reaching out to Peggy Ross to get help with getting grants. He said the Fire Association is still having trouble with dead spots especially in the Tygart Valley and Mill Creek areas. He said they need to do a radio study to see how to get better coverage for that area. He said they are waiting to see what Green Bank is going to do first.

Jared Jenkins with Sound Communications appeared before the Commission. He said the recorder at the 911 Center is working but is only going to do what it does. He said there can never be any updates done to it to make it better. He said by October 1, 2025 they will have to spend \$35,000.00 for the contract for the current recorder and they need to install a new piece of equipment to it. He said a whole new recorder which includes all the upgrades and would be up to date with all services would be \$70,000.00. He said this same recorder next year will probably cost 80-90 thousand dollars.

Commissioner Siler asked if the recorder had reached it's lifespan? Mr. Jenkins said the recorder will continue to work but nothing new can be added. Commissioner Kesling asked how old it was? Mr. Jenkins said approximately 8-10 years. Commissioner Siler said they are looking at about \$130,000.00 for everything that was discussed today.

Kenny Watson, Randolph County Court Security Officer, appeared before the Commission. He said he was there to give a report for the month of July, 2025. He said they scanned 3,855 people. He said they confiscated 4 guns, 500 knives and 7 pepper spays. He said they served 173 papers. He said the guys are doing an excellent job. He said the new employee Mr. Johnson is doing great. He said they still have 4 Officers without radios and they need 1 vest. He said they have some money in their budget and are willing to pay a portion to get these items. He said Mr. Lindsay left and went back to driving a School Bus.

Rhett Dusenberry from Congressman Moore's Office appeared before the Commission. He said a lot of funding is still up in the air. He said the Congressman introduced a bill called Faithful Patriot. He said they are always ready to do letters of support for the Commission to help them get grants.

Commissioner Kesling reported that they have started to repaint and clear coat the 6 Welcome to Randolph County signs. He said they are working on resealing and restriping the County parking lots. He

said they are going to fix the sign on the Cain Annex to remove Prosecuting Attorney and add Circuit Court Judge to it. He said they are going to put a sign on this building that says County Commission Annex. He said they are looking at doing two Ordinances, one regarding Vape Shops and one regarding Camping and Homeless. He said Prosecuting Attorney Michael Parker is reviewing them now and they should be on the Agenda next time. He said they received a one-time grant in which the County is a pass thru agency for the Randolph County Emergency Squad in the amount of \$90,900.00. This has to be used for equipment and must be used by June of next year.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Commissioner Kesling said the Commission received a card from Anne Beardslee thanking them for their additional contribution. He said they also received a thank you from the YMCA for the yearly contribution they receive from the Commission.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Kesling announced that the next meeting of the County Commission will be held on September 4, 2025 at 1:30 p.m. He also announced that the Courthouse Complex will be closed on September 1, 2025 for Labor Day.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF WVDEP COVERED ELECTRONICS DEVICES GRANT RESOLUTION

Commissioner Kesling said the Commission with the help of Peggy Ross is applying for a Grant for electronic recycling events. He said they need to do a Resolution to go along with the grant application. He read the Resolution out loud. Commissioner See moved to approve the Resolution, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Kesling said there will be an Electronics recycling event this Saturday from 9:00 am to 1:00 pm at the Phil Gainer Community Center.

Commissioner Kesling discussed the County trash cans and said people are abusing it. He said Peggy Ross cleaned up the mess on Ferguson Road around two trash cans. He said Tygarts Valley Sanitation will only pick up what is in the cans not around the cans. He said they might have to get rid of them.

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FORBES COPPER WORKS QUOTE

Commissioner Kesling said this is for the main Courthouse. He said this is a quote for a protective barrier snow rail retaining system. He said the snow and ice falls off the Courthouse in several areas. He said they want to do the front area first around the Lady Justice statue to protect it from snow and ice hitting her and breaking her as it did before. He said the quote is in the amount of \$23,730.00. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the quote from Forbes Copper Works in the amount of \$23,730.00 and that is to be taken out of Tribal Fund 038. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF JOSEPH LEGG PAINTING LLC QUOTE

Commissioner Kesling said this is for the back of the Cain Annex. He said when they did a review of the Courthouse grounds it was noted that there was no signage of where people need to go for each Office. He said they want to paint the back of the Cain Annex and put up signage. The quote is in the amount of \$1,950.00. Commissioner See moved to approve the quote from Joseph Legg Painting LLC in the amount of \$1,950.00 with \$950.00 paid down and \$1,000.00 paid when job is completed and that is to be taken out of the Tribal Fund 038. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Kesling said the next quote is for Joseph Legg Painting LLC to paint 3 sides of this building (County Commission Annex) and since this building is leased the landlord will take it off the rent payment. The quote for this is \$5,600.00 with \$2,700.00 down and \$2,900.00 paid when job is completed. Commissioner See moved to approve the quote from Joseph Legg Painting LLC in the amount of \$5,600.00 with \$2,700.00 down and \$2,900.00 paid when the job is completed and that is to be paid out of the rent funds. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF TRANSFER OF K9 "TWIX" TO THE ORIGINAL VENDOR

Commissioner Kesling said the County is losing Deputy Tyler Knotts to the City of Elkins. He said Deputy Knotts is who worked with K9 Twix. He said the County will transfer the dog back to the original vendor and then they can sell the dog to the City of Elkins. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the transfer of K9 "Twix" back to the original vendor. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF QUOTE FOR COMMISSION PROPERTY CLEAN-UP

Commissioner Kesling said this is regarding property the County owns on Stewart Street behind Ervin Lane. Commissioner See said the County got it from FEMA back when they bought out the houses after flooding. Commissioner Kesling said people are living on the property and also breaking into houses in that area. He said they have an encampment there. He said the Sheriff caught them and they left but they are already back out there now. Sheriff Elbon said the grass is very tall and they have mazes thru the grass and they run in all directions. He said they can't keep them out. The quote is from Allegheny Excavating, LLC in the amount of \$3,200.00. Commissioner Kesling said they will tear down what they have built with pallets and mow the grass down and clean it up. He said they will have Deputies go with them when they go to start doing this. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the quote from Allegheny Excavating LLC in the amount of \$3,200.00 to clean up County owned property and that is to be paid out of Tribal Fund 038. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF USE OF COURTHOUSE GROUNDS FOR THE DEMOCRATIC EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE

Commissioner Kesling said Cindy Steple from the Democratic Executive Committee reached out to him about using the Courthouse grounds for a Rally on Labor Day. He said they never have any trouble when they use it and they always clean up afterwards. Commissioner See moved to approve the use of the Courthouse grounds for the Democratic Executive Committee, as requested. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

FINAL SETTLEMENTS:

Commissioner Siler moved to approve the (8) Final Settlements, as submitted.

Mark B. Armentrout

Crystal Belle Bender

Sandra Haslip

Helen Mae Heckel

Colleen Adair Louk

Donald Paul Martin

Charles Gregory Mullenex

Karen Darlene Young

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

BUDGET REVISIONS: (1)

Commissioner See moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision in the amount of \$1,000.00 for North Central Community Corrections Office into the Over Time line. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

DIVISION OF PROPERTY/ERRONEOUS ASSESSMENTS/INCREASE OF ASSESSMENTS:

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

DISTRESSED PROPERTIES: None

Commissioner Kesling said there is a property up the Valley that he has received several calls about that they would like to get cleaned up soon.

FIRE FEE ADJUSTMENTS: None

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

Commissioner Siler 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: _____