

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

Present: Randolph County Commission President David Kesling and Randolph County Commissioner, Chris Siler. Commissioner Chris See was absent.

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Kesling

PUBLIC COMMENT:

Dan McCarthy with the Gold Star Monument appeared before the Commission. He said he is from Fayette County and is the district Governor for the Rotary for the State of West Virginia and is part of a committee that is responsible for designing and installing the Gold Star Monument. He said he also had with him Donnie Lambert who is there representing the American Legion and is a member of the committee. He said they were there to acknowledge their appreciation of the County Commission's contribution to the monument. He said they qualified as a gold star sponsor and he presented them a recognition of that. He presented the Commission with a glass plaque award.

MINUTES:

Commissioner Siler moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting that was held on September 4, 2025, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

Randolph County Prosecuting Attorney, Michael Parker reported on Whitmer Water. He said the Commission received correspondence from the Department of Health that said the County Commission would be responsible for the Whitmer Water Association. Mr. Parker said he contacted the Public Service Commission and spoke to Council for the Public Service Commission and they indicated that the City of Elkins is still under an operating agreement which is still applicable. He said after obtaining all of the information he sent a letter back to the Department of Health indicating that the order was still in effect. He said it is his understanding that, until a different order is entered, the City of Elkins will remain responsible for the Whitmer Water Association.

Sheriff Rob Elbon reported that Deputy Jim Wolfe is accepting a position with the Morgantown Police Department. He said Mr. Wolfe's family has relocated to there and he tested there and did very well and has accepted the position. He said September 27th or 28th will be his last day here. He said they have a new test scheduled for the end of the month and he has some certified guys interested and he has one of his part time deputies who may be interested in coming back full time.

Ron Andrew, Chief Administrative Officer for Davis Medical Center and the Senior Vice President of Davis Health System appeared before the Commission. He said Vandalia Health has 17 hospitals throughout the State of West Virginia. He said they also have some medical clinics located in Pennsylvania and Ohio. He said their mission is to enhance healthcare in the communities thru clinical excellence one patient at a time. He said their mission is also to bring the highest quality of healthcare to everyone that they serve. He said at Davis Medical Center they have 3,000 inpatient discharges annually and approximately 19,500 Emergency Room visits. He said they have around 140 births, 70,000 office visits, 70,000 radiology studies and around 2,500 surgeries per year. He said they are striving to have a 15 minute window from when a patient walks into the emergency room to when they see one of the physicians. He said there is some construction going on at the medical center along with a new roof that costs about a million dollars. He said they are adding new physicians in surgery. He said they are acquiring a surgical robot which is state of the art for all surgeries, which will start in January. He said they have a little over 600 employees at the medical center. He said they are the second largest employee in this area. He said they are actively engaged in the community and are a member of the Chamber of Commerce. He said they are big contributors and sponsors of the Mountain State Forest Festival. He said they are always listening to concerns from citizens. He said they use Health Net and

Health Teams for transport. He said Health Net is the aerial transport and Health Teams is ambulatory transport. He said Health Teams ambulances are located 24/7 at the medical center. He said his phone is always on and he is ready to help in any way he can. Commissioner Kesling said they appreciate him and if there is anything the Commission can do to reach out to them and let them know.

Erin Golden, Director of North Central Community Corrections, appeared before the Commission. She said they currently have 99 participants on the program and the program has saved the County \$350,905.68 in regional jail bills so far this fiscal year. She also went over the finances for the program.

Kurt Gainer with Randolph County Emergency Squad appeared before the Commission. He said all 3 stations are running with 5 units a day and they just had 4 EMT's who passed to be paramedics. He said they have been steady and everything has been good.

Rob Daman with OEM/911 Center appeared before the Commission. He said with the drought situation they went and got water buffalos in case they were needed. He said they have a conference in Bridgeport September 29 thru October 1. He said they have submitted some grant applications for help with getting new equipment and are waiting to hear back on those. He said two of their newest dispatchers went to the State Police Academy last week for weapons certification and both passed. He said two more dispatchers went the beginning of this week and completed the weapons tack training.

Commissioner Kesling reported that they are continuing to do courthouse improvements. He said they have painted some of the outside of the buildings and have done some parking lot sealing and striping for winter. He said they are having some mandatory training for County Employees on October 21st and 23rd on cybersecurity and harassment in the workplace and on slips, trips and falls. He said WV Corp will be handling those training session.

CORRESPONDENCE: None

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Kesling announced that the next meeting of the County Commission will be held on Wednesday October 1st at 1:30 p.m. He said the meeting date change is due to the Mountain State Forest Festival that week.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FUNDING REQUEST FOR THE ANNUAL MOUNTAIN STATE FOREST FESTIVAL

Matt Ogden from the Elkins Volunteer Fire Department appeared before the Commission. He said they are asking for assistance to support the 87th annual Mountain State Forest Festival Fireman's parade. He said the fire department pays for the food for 200-300 firemen, trophies, awards, etc. He said they are requesting \$1,500.00 in funding from the Commission. He thanked the Commission for their support. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the funding request from the Elkins Volunteer Fire Department in the amount of \$1,500.00 and that is to be taken out of Hotel/Motel Tax funds. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF 911 MOTOROLA RECORDER REPLACEMENT

Rob Daman with OEM/911 Center appeared before the Commission. He said the audio phone recording system for the 911 Center still works but it is outdated and cannot be updated. He said this records all the 911 calls. He said the cost for a 1 year update would have been \$35,000.00 and it is \$70,000.00 for a whole new system which would be up to date and better. He said if not purchased now that price will increase every year. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the replacement of the Motorola Recorder for the 911 Center at a cost of \$70,229.62 and that is to be taken out of the coal severance account. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF TYGARTS VALLEY UNITED WAY DONATION REQUEST FOR POOL/SPLASH PAD

JoLynn Powers, Regional Engagement Director of Tygart Valley United Way, appeared before the Commission. She said every year they have an online auction that supports the Tygart Valley United Ways campaign. She said they are asking the Commission to provide 4 family passes to the pool/splash

pad that they can use as an online auction donation item. She said last year they raised about \$14,500.00 from the online auction and most of the donations came from Randolph and Barbour Counties. She said this is just a portion of the annual fundraising that they do. She said their goal for this year is \$605,000.00. She said the money they receive goes back into 41 agencies in the five counties that they serve. She said a lot of this money will go to non-profit programs in Randolph County such as the Family Resource Network, Senior Center and Humane Society and many of those kinds of non-profit programs. Commissioner Kesling said they can do 4 family season passes that would be for the pool/splash pad for next year. Commissioner Kesling moved to approve the request from Tygart Valley United Way for 4 season passes to the Randolph County Pool/Splash Pad. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF PIONEER MEMORIAL PUBLIC LIBRARY APPOINTMENT AND RE-APPOINTMENT

Commissioner Siler said the Commission received a letter from the Pioneer Memorial Public Library asking for a re-appointment and an appointment to their board. Commissioner Siler moved to re-appoint Pam Mullenex for a five year term which will expire June 30, 2030. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Siler moved to appoint Ryan Sites to fill an unexpired term of Sandra Parrish, who resigned. Mr. Sites will serve on the Board through the remainder of that term, which ends on June 30, 2027. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF HEALTH DEPARTMENT BOARD APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner Siler moved to approve the appointment of Amanda Smith to the Randolph-Elkins Health Department Board. Her term will begin immediately and end on October 31, 2029. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Siler moved to approve the appointment of Kelly Channell to the Randolph-Elkins Health Department Board. Her term will begin on December 1, 2025 and end on November 30, 2030. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

FINAL SETTLEMENTS:

Commissioner Siler moved to approve the (3) Final Settlements, as submitted.

Thomas Gayle Summerfield

Robert Lee Hart, Jr.

James Michael Miller, Sr.

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

BUDGET REVISIONS: None

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

FIRE FEE ADJUSTMENTS:

Commissioner See moved to approve the (1) fire fee adjustment, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

PAYMENT OF BILLS:

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

ANNOUNCEMENT:

Commissioner Kesling announced that the Republican Party will be using the Courthouse Lawn tonight for a Night of Prayer beginning at 7:00 pm.

ADJOURN THE MEETING:

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

Attest: _____