

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 22<sup>nd</sup> day of January, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.

Present: Randolph County Commission President, David Kesling and 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 January 8, 2026, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

OEM/911 Director, Mike Miller appeared before the Commission. He said Casto Technical has been working on the heat in the 911 building and there are several things that need replaced and repaired. He said the two (UPS) units still need repaired. He said he gave the Commission a quote last year and nothing has been done. He said if there is a major storm and the power goes out the 911 Center will be dead in the water. The cost of the two (UPS) units to be repaired is around \$64,000.00. He said Pendleton County is building a new OEM office and would like to purchase some of Randolph County's 911 consoles that have never been used. He asked the Commission if he could sell those to Pendleton County. All three Commissioners agreed that he could sell them. He said they are trying to write a grant for a tower to be put up the Valley to help with communication for law, fire and EMS in that area and will need support from the Commission on that. He also asked if the Commission had any information regarding the floodplain ordinance. He said the Prosecuting Attorney's office was working on it but he has not heard anything back and the State OES NFIP is needing a response. He said the Refinery Church of Elkins is going to open a warming shelter on Friday January 23<sup>rd</sup> at 110 3<sup>rd</sup> Street in the coffee shop. He said they have the CERT truck back at the Office and are looking for the title for it. He said they still need to purchase the Amateur Radio for the OEM/911 Center but he needs the funding to do that. He asked the Commission what they plan to do with the old vehicles that are parked on the lot at the 911 Center. He said they have been there for over 5 years now. He said if they want him to he can take them to Elkins Iron and Metal. County Commission Administrative Assistant, Melinda Lott said they have purchased batteries and are waiting for the weather to get better and then they are going to try to sell them. Mike Miller said the one car is rusted really bad and the tires are all flat, wouldn't be able to sell it.

Commissioner Kesling said the vehicles can stay on the lot for another 7 years, the County owns the property. He said as for the money Mr. Miller needs, the County doesn't have any extra money to give out. He said the budget has already been done. He said Mr. Miller could talk to the Sheriff and see if he could do a lease like he did for the cruisers. He said they do leases for equipment too.

Sheriff Elbon reported that Deputy Roy got Starlink and is trying to set it up now. He said there will be a monthly fee and he thought maybe they could get an independent P-Card with a separate account just for that monthly fee. Melinda Lott said that would not be necessary



because we already have monthly bills coming out of the P-Cards. She said any of the P-Cards can be used for it.

County Clerk Brenda Wiseman reported that the filing period is still going on for the May 12, 2026 Primary Election. She said the last day to file is January 31, 2026 and her office will be open that day from 9:00 – Noon. She said so far, they have had 4 people file to run for the County Commission seat for the Tygart District and 10 people have filed for Executive Committee. She said 3 people have filed for the Randolph County Board of Education.

#### CORRESPONDENCE:

Commissioner Kesling said the Commission received a letter of thanks from Meals on Wheels.

#### ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Kesling announced that the next County Commission meeting will be held on Thursday February 5, 2026 at 1:30 at this location. He announced that the Board of Review and Equalization will meet on January 30, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. at this location.

#### ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

##### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF BALLOT COMMISSIONERS

County Clerk Brenda Wiseman presented to the Commission letters from the Republican and Democrat Executive Committee's for the ballot commissioners. She said these are two year terms and both of these ladies have worked as ballot commissioners in the past. Commissioner See moved to approve Sandra Hogan as the Republican Ballot Commissioner for a two year term beginning on February 1, 2026, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Siler moved to approve Pat Rossi as the Democrat Ballot Commissioner for a two year term beginning on February 1, 2026, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

##### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF NEW HIRES FOR COURT SECURITY

Sheriff Elbon appeared before the Commission. He said he would like to hire two full time Court Security Officers. He said the first one is Kara Sue Buonamici and she started on Tuesday January 20, 2026. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the hiring of Kara Sue Buonamici as a full time Court Security Officer with a starting salary of \$14.36 per hour and she will be placed on a 90 day probationary period and after 90 days her salary will be \$15.12 per hour and this will be a benefited position. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Sheriff Elbon said the second person he would like to hire is Ryan Ray Zickefoose. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the hiring of Ryan Zickefoose as a full time Court Security Officer. He will begin working on January 26, 2026 with a starting salary of \$14.36 per hour and he will be placed on a 90 day probationary period and after 90 days his salary will increase to \$15.12 per hour and this will be a benefited position. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

##### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF NEW HIRE FOR CAMP PIONEER DIRECTOR

Tracy Walker, President of the Randolph County Parks and Recreation Board, appeared before the Commission. She said they would like to hire Shelly Loudin as the Director of Operations for Camp Pioneer. She said she would begin working on January 26, 2026 with an hourly rate of pay of \$14.50 per hour and it would be a full time (37.5 hours per week) position. She said this will be temporary position for the first 90 days and upon 90 days of employment the Randolph County Parks and Recreation Board will evaluate the employee and make further recommendations for the employee to transition to full time with standard county benefits. She said the Randolph County Parks and Recreation board will provide adjunct pay above and beyond the hourly pay. She said that adjunct pay will be \$1,000.00 per month. Commissioner

See moved to approve the hiring of Shelly Loudin as the Director of Operations for Camp Pioneer, as presented. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Tracy Walker said they have been busy at Camp Pioneer and they are booked from March thru Thanksgiving, which is great. She said they are renovating the brick house and putting in a HVAC system. She said the Director will have a real office. She said the new bathrooms are up but not finished. She said they had a bunch of tree work done. She said they still need money to complete projects.

#### FINAL SETTLEMENTS:

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

Mildred Rachel Davis

Robert Bernard Kassel, Jr.

Amy Louise Teter

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### BUDGET REVISIONS:

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve a State Budget Revision in the amount of \$7,761.00 to transfer funds to cover increase in Statewide computer network. Commissioner Kesling voted yes, Commissioner See voted yes, Commissioner Siler voted yes. Motion passed

Commissioner Kesling moved to approve a State Budget Revision in the amount of \$400,000.00 to move money to cover expenses for the rest of the year in certain budget lines. Commissioner Kesling voted yes, Commissioner See voted yes, Commissioner Siler voted yes. Motion passed

Commissioner Siler moved to approve an In- House Budget Revision for the Dog Warden Cell Phone line in the amount of \$480.00. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Siler moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision for the Dog Warden Uniform line in the amount of \$160.00. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner See moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision for the Sheriff's Office Contractual Services line in the amount of \$8,950.00. 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

#### ZONING LETTERS:

Commissioner See moved to approve a zoning letter request, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

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: \_\_\_\_\_