

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 14th day of May, 2026 at 1:30 p.m.

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

Meeting called to order by Commissioner Kesling

PUBLIC COMMENT: None

MINUTES:

Commissioner Siler moved to approve the minutes from the regular meeting that was held on April 16, 2026, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Siler moved to approve the minutes from the special meeting held on April 21, 2026, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

REPORTS:

Sheriff Elbon said they are working on updating the bullet proof vests for the Court Security Officers and Deputies. He said he will bring a list of how many they need to get updated.

County Clerk, Brenda Wiseman reported on the Primary election. She said Early Voting and Election Day went pretty smooth. She said they had a few issues with the machines but that is usual. She said they are maintained before the election, but they are computers so things happen with them. She said in most cases we can talk the poll workers thru how to fix them and get them back up but sometimes we have to go out. She said Election night results went pretty fast. We were done by around 10:00 pm. She said the canvass will be held on Monday May 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00 a.m. here and it is open to the public if anyone wants to attend. She said they have the unofficial results at her office if anyone would like a copy. She said once the canvass is over and they have waited the time period the Commission will meet again to certify the results and to make everything official.

Commissioner David Kesling worked as a poll worker and he said he worked with a good group of ladies that have done it for several years and they knew how to set everything up and get it rolling and answer questions and he was really impressed with them. He said it is a long day but they seemed to enjoy it. He said he appreciates the County Clerk's staff because anytime they had a question they called the office and got a quick response. He said everyone did a great job and he was impressed. He said he may do it again in the fall.

Court Security Officer, Kenneth Hamrick gave a report for the month of April. He said there were a total of 2,497 people scanned for all of the buildings. He said in the main courthouse they scanned 195 people and the items they found were 1 knife and 2 other miscellaneous items. He said in the James Cain Annex they scanned 1,376 people and found 164 knives, 2 guns, 3 pepper sprays and 23 miscellaneous items. He said at the Wees Annex they scanned 216 and found 2 knives and 1 miscellaneous item which was a needle. He said in Magistrate Court they scanned 710 people, 49 knives, 1 gun, 2 pepper sprays and 2 miscellaneous items which were vapes.

CORRESPONDENCE:

Commissioner Kesling said they received a Thank You from Rachel Varner of the Elkins Kiwanis Club for the donation for the Elkins High School graduation party.

Commissioner Kesling said they received a Thank You from Mary and Joe Johnson for choosing their daughter, Heather Johnson, to do the Eagle mural that they Commission had done. He said he just can't say enough about Heather and the work she has done for the community and the Commission. She is a really talented artist.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Commissioner Kesling announced the Canvass of the election results will be held here on Monday May 18<sup>th</sup> at 9:00. He announced the next County Commission meeting will be held on May 28<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm. He announced that the Courthouse complex will be closed on Monday May 25<sup>th</sup> for Memorial Day. He also announced that all elected officials and department heads need to have all State Budget Revisions in by the June 4, 2026 meeting.

ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION/ACTION:

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CHILD PROVIDER APPRECIATION DAY PROCLAMATION

Zandra Kelly from Mountain Heart Community Services appeared before the Commission. Commissioner Kesling read the Proclamation out loud. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the Proclamation for Child Care Provider Appreciation Day on May 8, 2026, as presented. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF COMMUNITY ACTION MONTH PROCLAMATION

Brenda Riggleman from Mountain Heart Community Services appeared before the Commission. North Central WV Community Action member Gene Purkey was also present. Commissioner Kesling read the Proclamation out loud. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the Community Action Month of May, as presented. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF FY 26-27 PRO OFFICER CONTRACT WITH THE RANDOLPH COUNTY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Sheriff Elbon said every year we work with the Board of Education with a contract for the PRO Officers. He said the Board of Education is going to continue to fund the Officers in the schools. Commissioner Kesling said the contract says the County will provide two police officers which are Rocky Hebb and Danny Pennington. Sheriff Elbon agreed that those will be the two officers assigned to the schools. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the FY 26-27 Pro Officer contract with the Randolph County Board of Education, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF THE LEADSVILLE PSD BOARD RE-APPOINTMENT OF BARBARA ZICKEFOOSE

Commissioner Kesling said the Commission received a letter asking for Barbara Zickefoose to be re-appointed to the Leadsville PSD Board. Commissioner Siler moved to re-appoint Barbara Zickefoose to the Leadsville PSD Board with a term beginning July 1, 2026 and ending June 30, 2032. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF NORTON-HARDING JIMTOWN PSD APPOINTMENT TO FILL THE UNEXPIRED TERM OF GARY CURRENCE AND HIS RESIGNATION

Commissioner Kesling said the Commission received a letter from Norton-Harding-Jimtown PSD asking for Curtis R. Elmore to be appointed to fill an unexpired term. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the appointment of Curtis R. Elmore to the Norton-Harding-Jimtown PSD Board for a term beginning May 14, 2026 and ending on June 30, 2026. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

CONSIDER APPROVAL OF HELVETIA PUBLIC LIBRARY'S BOARD RE-APPOINTMENTS

Commissioner Kesling said the Commission received a letter from the Helvetia Public Library Board of Trustees. They said they need to get the board members updated after a director turnover. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the re-appointments of Betty Biggs retroactively effective July 1, 2018 for a term ending June 30, 2023 and reappointed effective July 1, 2023 for a term ending June 30, 2028. Heidi Arnett effective July 1, 2026 for a term ending June 30, 2031. Christine Long effective July 1, 2025 for a term ending June 30, 2030. Donna Knotts effective July 1, 2024 for a term ending June 30, 2029. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF WHITMER'S FEDERAL SURPLUS PROPERTY PROGRAM LETTER

Commissioner Kesling said the Commission received a letter from the Whitmer Volunteer Fire Department regarding efforts to participate in the Federal Surplus Property Program. Commissioner Kesling read the response letter out loud. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the letter of support for the Whitmer Volunteer Fire Department to participate in the Federal Surplus Property Program administered by West Virginia State Surplus, as presented. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF OUR TOWN'S 4<sup>TH</sup> OF JULY EVENT FUNDING REQUEST

Priscilla Gay, Treasurer of Our Town, appeared before the Commission. She said she was there asking for \$5,000.00 for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July car show. She said Mountain State Street Machines is excited to announce that the car show is moving back to the Elkins City Park and people are happy about that. They have worked towards this goal for several years. She said some of the classic car owners want shade for their cars. She said they give out monetary prizes and a best in show award. She said there will be food vendors there and will also have other activities going on that day also. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the funding request in the amount of \$5,000.00 for Our Town for the 4<sup>th</sup> of July Car Show and that is to be taken out of Hotel/Motel Tax funds. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Ms. Gay said they really appreciate the County Commissions support for all of these years.

#### CONSIDER APPROVAL OF CHANGES TO SPECIAL EMERGENCY AMBULANCE SERVICE FEE ORDINANCE

Commissioner Kesling said they talked about this Ordinance for several months and it was on the website, in the newspaper twice, on WBOY and they had two readings of it at the County Commission meetings. He said they heard no public comment on it. He said once the businesses started getting the letters they sent out the Commission started getting comments. He said they said previously that the Ordinance can be amended by the County Commission. He said they have decided to make some changes. He said the first change is the due date. He said instead of the 5<sup>th</sup> of the month that is now going to be the 20<sup>th</sup> of the month. He said the second change is that some businesses pay the State Tax monthly or quarterly and they are going to allow that so that this fee can be paid monthly or quarterly, the business will just have to advise the County Commission in writing to that effect. He said the third change is that one single item that exceeds \$10,000.00 will be exempt from the fee. He said he also wanted to clarify that businesses do not have to list this fee on the customer receipt if their system does not allow for it. Commissioner Siler moved to approve the changes to the Special Emergency Ambulance Service Fee Ordinance, as submitted. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

#### FINAL SETTLEMENTS:

Commissioner Siler moved to approve the (11) Final Settlements, as submitted.

Joyce Ramona Estridge

Dwight Richard Hall

Donald Lee Higgins

Christina Dawn Jordan

Bennie Michael Lane

Janet Kay Lewis

Mary Etta Peacock

Brian Clark Phillips

Evelyn June Raines

Mark Benner Spencer

Richard Lee Thompson

All yes – Motion passed unanimously

**BUDGET REVISIONS:**

Commissioner Siler moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision in the amount of \$1,000.00 for the Sheriff's Office to increase supplies line. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Siler moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision in the amount of \$200.00 for the Sheriff's Office to increase the training 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 \$600.00 for the Sheriff's Office to increase Sheriff Contracted Services 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 \$8,000.00 to increase the Contracted Services line. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Siler moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision for the County Commission Office in the amount of \$3,000.00 from Courthouse Contractual into the EMS Fee line. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Siler moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision for the County Commission Office in the amount of \$23,441.03 for the Courthouse Windows grant which the County will pay for and get reimbursed. All yes – Motion passed unanimously

Commissioner Siler moved to approve an In-House Budget Revision for the 911 Office in the amount of \$20,000.00. This will be going from 911 Wages line into 911 Overtime 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

**ZONING LETTERS:** None

**FIRE FEE ADJUSTMENTS:**

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

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