

COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, SEPTEMBER 25, 2024

PRESENT: SEAN SIKORA, President
THOMAS BLOOM, Member
JEFFREY ARNETT, Member

1. Moment of Silent Meditation and Pledge to the Flag

2. Call to Order

The Monongalia County Commission met in regular session on the 25th day of September 2024 beginning at 10:01 A.M. in the Monongalia County Commission Meeting Room, at the Monongalia County Courthouse. Agendas attached. A video copy of the work session will be available upon written request to the County Commission at cost.

3. Consent and Approval – (see exhibit)

A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried for the Commission to give their consent and approval to the following agenda items:

- a) Erroneous Assessments (attached)
- b) Commission Minutes – September 18, 2024
- c) Pay Vouchers
- d) Miscellaneous Bonds, etc.
- e) Budget Revisions
- f) Vacancies for Boards and Authorities
- g) Fiduciary Orders

4. Introduction of new employees/personnel changes

a) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve the employment of Nikolaus Kreider as a full-time Deputy Dog Warden for the Monongalia County Canine Adoption Center at a rate of \$33,500.00 per year effective October 1, 2024.

b) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve the employment of Timothy N. Johnson as a full-time Maintenance III employee for the Monongalia County Facilities Department at a rate of \$3,813.33 per month effective October 1, 2024.

c) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve the employment of Joseph E. Fox as a full-time Court Security Officer for the Monongalia County Sheriff's Department at a rate of \$3,076.38 per month effective October 1, 2024.

5. Comments from the Public

Mary Ann Folz, 828 Bloody Run – Concerned about annexation of Health Right by the City of Morgantown, asked for additional patrols by the Monongalia County Sheriff's Department in the area around Scott Avenue because of increases in drug-related crime.

6. Grants

A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve a request for reimbursement for the August 2024 Community Development Block Grant in the amount of \$1,774.08.

7. Correspondence

a) Notice from the Monongahela Conservation District regarding the Annual Fall Awards Banquet to be held on October 17, 2024.

b) Email from Vincent Kitch, Director of Arts and Cultural Development for the City of Morgantown, providing a summary of the 2024 Ruby Summer Concert Series.

c) Law Enforcement Mutual Assistance Agreement from the Monongalia County Sheriff.

8. Unfinished Business – None

9. New Business

a) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve Requisition No. 32 for Series 2021 B Harmony Grove Phase 1 Project Fund in the amount of \$55,486.40.

b) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve the dates of October 9, 2024 for the first reading and October 16, 2024 for the second reading and public hearing for a proposed amendment to the Monongalia County Tower Ordinance.

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9. New Business (Continued)

c) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve the dates of October 16, 2024 for the first reading and October 23, 2024 for the second reading and public hearing for a proposed map amendment to the West Run Planning District Zoning Ordinance to a property described as Morgan District, Tax Map 4E Parcel 26.1.

d) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve letters of support for grant applications to the WV First Foundation for:

i) Lauren's Wish Addiction Triage Center, Inc.

ii) WV Sober Living Solutions

e) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve a Right-of-Way and Easement Agreement as requested by the Morgantown Utility Board for property owned by the Monongalia County Commission at Mylan Park described as Grant District, Map 6B Parcel 3.10 and 3.11.

f) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve the Alpine Street Orphan Road Grant request with a total Commission contribution of up to \$82,400.00.

10. Reports from Elected Officials and Department Supervisors

Mark Musick, Monongalia County Assessor – Reminded the public that the deadlines to be eligible for the vehicle tax credit on 2024 tax filings is October 1st for the first half of personal property taxes due and December 31st for the second half of personal property taxes due.

J.R. Petsko, Monongalia County Director of Parks and Recreation – Attended the West Virginia Recreation and Parks Association Annual Conference. Doug Comer, Chair of the Awards Committee for the West Virginia Recreation and Parks Association, presented the James L. McClelland Public Parks and Recreation Facility Award to J.R. Petsko for the Mason-Dixon Historical Park Trail System. J.R. Petsko recognized participants that contributed to this project (West Virginia Society of Professional Surveyors, local boy scouts and girl scouts, local volunteers, North Elementary School students, Eddie Maier, Park Superintendent Angela Hinerman, and park staff).

11. Reports from County Commissioners

Commissioner Arnett – Commended participants in the West Run Planning District map amendment (Monongalia County Planning Commission, the developer, and the public), thanked J.R. Petsko and Mason-Dixon Historical Park Superintendent Angela Hinerman for their work at the park, addressed Mary Ann Folz's comments (annexation into the City of Morgantown can be done through petition by property owner, if property is annexed then the City of Morgantown is responsible for law enforcement).

Commissioner Bloom – Thanked Earl Gaskins, District 4 Division of Highways (DOH) Interim Director, and Jennifer Dooley, West Virginia Department of Transportation (DOT) Public Relations, for addressing proposed closures to US Route 119.

Commissioner Sikora – WVcorp quarterly meeting, WVcorp annual meeting (elected to another term on the WVcorp Board), human resources (HR) call with County Administrator, thanked J.R. Petsko and Angela Hinerman for their work at Mason-Dixon Historical Park, thanked Derek Jackson for his work on the Alpine Street Orphan Road Grant application.

12. Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to adjourn at 10:38 A.M.

SEAN P. SIKORA
President

THOMAS C. BLOOM
Member

JEFFREY L. ARNETT
Member

Approved on: