

COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MARCH 15, 2023

PRESENT: THOMAS BLOOM, PRESIDENT
SEAN SIKORA, 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 15th day of March 2023 beginning at 10:06 A.M. in the Monongalia County Commission Meeting Room, at the Monongalia County Courthouse. A video copy of the work session will be available upon written request to the County Commission at cost. Agenda attached.

3. Consent and Approval

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

- a) Erroneous Assessments
- b) Minutes – March 8, 2023
- c) Pay Vouchers
- d) Miscellaneous Bonds, etc.
- e) Budget Revisions
 - i) General Fund – State Approval
 - (1) State Grants (443)
 - (2) Law Enforcement (700)
 - (3) Jail Reimbursable (702)
 - (4) Central Garage (717)
 - (5) Other Health Programs (802)
 - (6) Community Centers (908)

- f) Vacancies for Boards and Authorities
- g) Fiduciary Orders

- i) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Sikora and unanimously carried to order the recommendation of Fiduciary Commission George B. Armistead filed in the Estate of Robert A. McNiell, Sr., and to give the beneficiary of the estate 30 days to file a formal Petition to Remove the executor from the estate.

- ii) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Sikora and unanimously carried to approve the recommendation of Fiduciary Commissioner Matthew S. Gutta and deny the claim for posthumous rent against the Estate of David D. Harsbarger. David Harsbarger, Executor for the Estate of David D. Harsbarger, stated he opposes the outstanding claim against the estate for wear and tear to the apartment.

4. Introduction of new employees/personnel changes

- a) A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve the employment of LaMeekiaa Johnson as a part-time Registered Nurse for the Monongalia County Youth Services Center at a rate of \$13,600.00 per year effective March 22, 2023. A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve the employment of Brittany Scott as part-time Registered Nurse for the Monongalia County Youth Services Center at a rate of \$13,600.00 per year effective March 16, 2023.

- b) A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve the employment of Tessa Renee Campbell as a part-time, seasonal employee for Chestnut Ridge Park at a rate of \$11.00 per hour effective March 20, 2023.

- c) A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve the employment of Brock Hunter Darnell as a part-time, seasonal Maintenance employee for Camp Muffly at a rate of \$12.00 per hour effective March 16, 2023.

5. Comments from the Public

Tamara Klein, 139 Hawkins Run Road, Hagans – Comments about lack of internet services in her area, Comcast may extend service to the area if paid \$12,000.00, school children and remote workers need reliable internet access, would be an economic boost for the area, appreciate facilities at Mylan Park.

Mindy Thorn, 670 Hawkins Run Road, Maidsville/Core – Small but growing community, her family has lived in the area more than 50 years, requesting \$12,000.00 to pay Comcast to begin providing internet service in the area, important for residential and business life to keep the community growing.

Jason Charles, no address given – Comments about right and wrong.

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Ron Justice, 741 Johnson Avenue – Applying to the Monongalia County Ballpark Fund, planning a weekend of non-competitive games for high school teams, would bring people to Morgantown instead of travelling to southern areas, tentatively calling the event the Monongalia County Classic.

Letter from Scott and Kitty Hendricks, LC Farms, LLC, Hagans, WV (not in attendance, letter read by Commissioner Bloom) – Statement about the Comcast expansion project and associated cost.

6. Grants

A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve requests for reimbursement for the SIEEP grant (\$6,978.86) and the Governor’s Highway Safety Program Safe Communities grant (\$4,032.60) and Impaired Driving grant (\$3,120.24).

7. Correspondence

- a) Congressionally Directed Spending Letters of Support signed by the Commission President:
 - i) West Virginia Land Trust.
 - ii) West Virginia Department of Transportation (I-79 Exit 155 Improvements).
 - iii) West Virginia Department of Transportation (Harmony Grove Interchange).
 - iv) West Virginia Women Work.
 - v) West Virginia Sober Living.
 - vi) West Virginia Bureau of Senior Services.
 - vii) West Virginia Division of Natural Resources.
 - viii) Hope Hill Sobering Center.
 - ix) City of Westover (Sanitary Sewer Project)
- b) Follow-up email from Mary Beth Marstiller about Mayfield Road.
- c) Follow-up email from Amy Hagedorn about Mayfield Road.
- d) Email from Erica Parenti about Mayfield Road.
- e) Email from Julie Phillips about Mayfield Road.

8. Unfinished Business – None

9. New Business

- a) A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve Requisition No. 75 for the University Town Centre Economic Opportunity Development District Subaccount in the amount of \$839,989.05.
- b) A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve a request by Monongalia County Victim Assistance Program for use of the Courthouse Square on April 26, 2023 for National Crime Victim’s Rights Week 2023.

10. Reports from Elected Officials and Department Supervisors – None

11. Reports from County Commissioners

Commissioner Sikora – RED team meeting, Development Authority meeting, staff reports, budget hearings, JUMA meeting, thanks to residents who spoke about internet service providers, Monongalia County Ballpark Fund, appreciate comments about Aquatic Center.

Commissioner Arnett – Thanks to the residents who spoke about internet service providers, the Commission will review the applications for the Monongalia County Ballpark Fund.

Commissioner Bloom – Work session planned with Department of Highways (DOH) (Mayfield Road and other projects), attended Built for Zero for Homeless, warming shelter closing today (working with City of Morgantown to find a solution), thanks for public comments about internet service providers (will coordinate with broadband team), Pantry Plus More accredited again by Mountaineer Food Bank.

12. Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Sikora and unanimously carried to adjourn at 10:50 A.M.

SEAN P. SIKORA
Member

THOMAS C. BLOOM
President

JEFFREY L. ARNETT
Member

Approved on: