

REGULAR ADJOURNED SESSION OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF BROOKE COUNTY,
WEST VIRGINIA, HELD TUESDAY, MARCH 14, 2017

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The County Commission of Brooke County, West Virginia met in regular adjourned session this 14th day of March, 2017 at 9:30 a.m. at the Courthouse.

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Present: Tim Ennis, President
Jim Andreozzi and Stacey Wise, Commissioners
Sylvia J. Benzo, County Clerk

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The Commission held their preliminaries before the meeting including a prayer and pledge of allegiance.

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A motion was made by Jim Andreozzi, seconded by Stacey Wise and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 7, 2017.

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A copy of the following correspondence was given to each of the Commissioner's for their review:

A notice was received from Change, Inc. letting us know that they have adopted the National Industry Standards for Homeownership Education and can provide information to home buyers.

A letter was received from Weirton Transit requesting assistance for 2017-2018 in the amount of \$6,000.

A copy of a letter the Business Development Corporation sent to Senator Ryan Ferns concerning Senate Bills 395 & 457 and their opposition to the elimination of the Certificate of Need (CON). This bill would require all hospitals and health care related providers to obtain approval from the State before adding or expanding major health care services.

A letter was received from the West Virginia Development Office letting us know that because we are a recipient of Community Development Block Grant funds the county is required to further Fair Housing. A motion was made by Jim Andreozzi, seconded by Stacey Wise and unanimously passed to adopt the Resolution on Fair Housing.

A notice was received from the WV Film Office notifying us that they will be hosting a training workshop at WVU Economic Development Center on March 25, 2017.

A letter was received from Sheriff Palmer indicating the amount of payment that former Dispatcher Amanda Snodgrass is entitled to receive for vacation, etc.

A letter was received from Donna DeJaro, Shelter Director requesting to hire Joseph Hood as a part-time employee at the shelter. Commissioner Andreozzi indicated that we need to get current employees less than twenty (20) work hours and this is to help alleviate the hours. Jim Andreozzi made a motion seconded by Stacey Wise and unanimously passed to approve the hiring.

The above correspondence was ordered filed in the County Clerk's Office.

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A motion was made by Stacey Wise, seconded by Jim Andreozzi and unanimously passed to adopt a Resolution stating that the commission has sufficient manpower to operate and manage all equipment that the Sheriff has requested which includes new DVR's, Video Monitors, Video Cameras and Panic Alarms pursuant to the provisions of the grant through the Division of

Justice and Community programs. This will be given to Sheriff Palmer for his grant application.

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Doug Wayt of the Brooke County Pioneer Trail Association had provided a Pre-Scope of Work Meeting Questionnaire that the DOH had provided for the Commission to complete. Mr. Wayt contacted Mark Scoular with the DOH and he clarified some questions concerning information the commission needed to provide concerning the application for the grant. Upon clarification provided Stacey Wise made a motion, seconded by Jim Andreozzi and unanimously passed to authorize Commissioner Ennis to sign off on the Pre-Scope Work Questionnaire for U305-PIO/NE-3 for the Brooke Pioneer Trail Expansion North Project.

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Richard Ferguson was present to let the commission know that the Dilapidated Building Committee had made contact with a recent complaint filed by John Ireys against Walter Ray Fortney, 335 Bonnie Beth Drive, Wellsburg and his property conditions. He indicated that the property is going into Bankruptcy, however; they will continue to investigate and have sent a letter to the owner.

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Marie Lauck was present and invited all to attend the open house at Shiloh Apartments this Sunday. She also updated the Commission on a recent decision by the State to change the living status of the residents of Shiloh apartments and some of the regulations. Commissioner Ennis stated that they have been meeting as a group since November on this issue. He also encourages everyone to come and support Shiloh during their open house. Ms. Lauck reported that post cards will be at various events for the public to sign in support of Shiloh residents and will be mailed in by Shiloh to the State. Special Olympics Basketball game is scheduled for March 31, 2017.

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A motion was made by Jim Andreozzi, seconded by Stacey Wise and unanimously passed to recess the regular meeting for a public hearing scheduled for 10:45 a.m. concerning the E-9-1-1 Fee increase proposal. Bill Johnson of Follansbee was present to express concerns about the price increase from \$2.05 to \$6.05 and felt the increase. He indicated that he does not text or do face book and felt there was no need to text for a 9-1-1 call. Commissioner Ennis explained that the 9-1-1 Account is losing more than \$15,000 per month in fees and costs to operate the 9-1-1 Center continue to rise. There has not been a 9-1-1 fee increase since 2001 and in the meantime land line phones are being disconnected and are fewer because a lot of people are using their cell phone lines and not land lines, therefore; less fees are being collected. Sheriff Palmer wants to add text messaging to the 9-1-1 Call Center but the equipment has to be upgraded if there is sufficient funding, so the increase is not just for texting. Deputy Arthurs was present and stated that the increase is for maintenance and upgrades to the system and texting is just part of the newer system. Bill Johnson wanted to know if there was a way to charge cell phone users as his phone, internet and television are a bundled package as it is cheaper that way. Commissioner Andreozzi stated that the increase is only for the land lines as there is already a charge for cell phones that is handled by the State. Deputy Arthurs indicated they are working on some things as currently these fees are put in a pot and each county gets a share of the funds. They are looking at different ways to eliminate the land and cell charges such as adding fees to electric meters and other avenues. Commissioner Andreozzi stated that the Commission hates to raise these fees but in 2001 there were more land lines which brought in more revenue and now land lines are a lot less due to the cell phones. He stated that last year the commission chose to lower our levy rates which helped the taxpayer. He hopes this is a short term resolution but the service provided is twenty-four hours a day. He also stated that Charleston is pushing their problems to the counties. Commissioner Ennis stated that the State wants to take money from the 9-1-1 system and distribute it to the State Police. Commissioner Ennis expressed our concerns about this avenue when he met with legislators this past week in Charleston. Commissioner Ennis received an e-mail from Maureen Schwertfeger stating she was an older resident and asked that the increase of the land line fees be reconsidered and also received a call from Robert Cheripko expressing concerns about the increased fee. The public hearing was announced in the

Brooke County Review in their February 10, 2017 paper. Commissioner Andreozzi stated that there has been some discussion about regionalizing 9-1-1 Centers. After a lengthy discussion on the fees a motion was made by Jim Andreozzi, seconded by Tim Ennis and unanimously passed to raise the E-9-1-1 fees to \$6.05 effective April 1, 2017. A letter will be sent to our billing agent to increase the fees.

Commissioner Ennis gave an update on his meeting in Charleston and one of the topics was the 9-1-1 fee and a bill introduced to give part of the fees to the State Police. He indicated that we support our State Police but we are in a deficit now on our own E-9-1-1 and cannot afford to give up revenues.

He also reported that there will be less funds distributed to counties in the way of grants.

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The Commission reconvened their regular meeting.

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A motion was made by Jim Andreozzi, seconded by Stacey Wise and unanimously passed to accept the bid for a new vehicle for the Sheriff's Department from Team Ford. They were the only company that placed a bid for the vehicle. Deputy Pizer was present and indicated that Follansbee will be buying the old Ford Taurus vehicle for \$16,000 as Team Ford was only going to give them \$15,000 as a trade.

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Commissioner Wise indicated that they met with Sharon Kesselring of the American Red Cross on Wednesday who are trying to recruit volunteers in the area to help with Red Cross events. She also stated that they will give to any resident a free smoke detector. Commissioner Wise also discussed the Pillow Project they do and reminded everyone to change their batteries in their smoke detectors. Commissioner Andreozzi indicated that the Red Cross was very active when Follansbee had flooding and urged for people to volunteer as we only have one representative in our area. A motion was made by Stacey Wise seconded by Jim Andreozzi and unanimously passed to declare March, 2017 as American Red Cross Month.

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As a point of clarification Lucas Diserio applied to become a member of the Brooke County Parks & Recreation Commission Board and not the Health Board.

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Invoices and vouchers were approved and the following checks were ordered written:

General County Fund - Check Nos. 18621 through 18648 for \$42,826.66
Payroll Withholding - Check Nos. 18611 through 18620 for \$3,456.44
E-911 - Check Nos. 1734 through 1738 for \$51,335.46
Home Confinement - Check No. 1235 for \$775.00
Ambulance Fund - Check Nos. 3258 through 33265 for \$1,729.18
Business Development Corp. - Check No. 155 for \$3,000
Fire Levy - Check Nos. 1295 through 1305 for \$104,432.49
Excess Levies - Check Nos. 18649 through 18660 for \$66,607
Valuation Fund - Check Nos. 1122 through 1127 for \$11,329.98

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No further business to come before the Commission a motion was made by Jim Andreozzi, seconded by Tim Ennis and unanimously passed to adjourn.

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Timothy R. Ennis, President

Teste:

Sylvia J. Benzo, Clerk