

REGULAR ADJOURNED SESSION OF THE COUNTY COMMISSISON OF BROOKE COUNTY,
WEST VIRGINIA, HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 16, 2018

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The County Commission of Brooke County, West Virginia met in regular adjourned session this 16th day of January, 2018 at 10:30 a.m. at the Brooke County Courthouse.

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 Stacey Wise seconded by Jim Andreozzi, and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 9, 2018.

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

A letter was received from Lynn Davis resigning as a member of the Brooke County Museum Board due to a conflict of interest. The Commission will allow two weeks for those interested in serving on this board to submit a letter of interest.

A letter was received from Donna DeJaro, Shelter Director requesting to hire Jacyn Diamond as a part-time employee at the Animal Shelter. Jim Andreozzi made a motion, seconded by Stacey Wise and unanimously passed to approve the hiring.

A letter was received from Donna DeJaro, Shelter Director requesting to hire Donna Acors as a part-time employee at the Animal Shelter. Jim Andreozzi made a motion, seconded by Stacey Wise and unanimously passed to approve the hiring.

A Petition was received from Attorney Christine Machel requesting the reopening of the Estate of Howard M. Counselman in order to transfer stock in the decedents name. Jim Andreozzi made a motion, seconded by Stacey Wise and unanimously passed to approve the re-opening.

A Press Release was received from Mac Warner, Secretary of State releasing voter registration statistics beginning December 31, 2016 through December 31, 2017.

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

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Pat Ford of the Business Development Corporation was present and updated the Commission for 2017 events. He reported that two studies have come out for the Brooke-Hancock County area, one of which indicates that we have been ranked among the top five in the housing market in the country, and the second is a General Contractors Report which states that our region had a large percentage increase in construction jobs. We were among the top five percent in the country in the increase of construction jobs. Our unemployment rate is considerably down compared to several years ago. Mr. Ford reported that at the Beech Bottom Industrial site they now have about seven occupants in this building. Southwest is under a one-year lease for a piece of the property which is unrelated to the three letters of intent they have on property. Also, in Wellsburg they are continuing to work on the Brooke Glass site to remediate the property to market it. He reported that the BDC is marketing the Wellsburg and Follansbee Middle School properties to try and sell these two buildings and reported there appears to be a lot of interest in the Wellsburg School. He also reported that in the Weirton, Colliers Way there are a lot of shovels moving in the area.

Commissioner Ennis reported that when he was in the legislature he learned that West Virginia leads the nation in home ownership. He also reported that he is proud of our areas low crime rate and commended our law enforcement. Mr. Ford reported that we have the third lowest turn over rate of all, in industry workers. The Commission thanked him for the updates.

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Butch Rotellini was present and informed the Commission that the turn at Rockdale Road is getting worse and wanted to know who we could put pressure on to get the road fixed. Commissioner Wise stated that the Commission did write letters to the Department of Highways expressing our concerns. The Commission will be in Charleston within the next week and will talk with our legislators to see what can be done.

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Bud Billiard expressed concerns about the condition of Short Creek Road coming North and the fact that it is always very slick. He does not know if the road surface is the problem. He asked the Commission to look into this situation. Commissioner Ennis indicated that the road had been repaved and does not know if this had made any difference. If there is water lying that continuously lies on the road, this should be addressed.

Mr. Billiard reported that the Army personnel returned on January 6 & 7, 2018 to Brooke Hills Park to help with the on-going improvements. The Franklin United Methodist Church helped feed about seventy-five (75) of them. They will be returning again on February 3 & 4, 2018.

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Commissioner Wise stated that there are three board members whose terms are up on the Brooke County Parks & Recreation Commission Board, Bud Billiard, Julie Barnhart and Ken Fletcher and the Commission does not take the appointments lightly. The Commission appreciates all those that submitted a letter of interest to serve on this board. She felt in talking with each of the applicants that the current members are doing a good job and a motion to re-appoint all three current members to another term. Motion was seconded by Jim Andreozzi and unanimously passed.

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Commissioner Andreozzi stated that the Commission has been talking with the Brooke County Solid Waste Authority and talking about their financial struggling. A lot of residents have stated that they want to have recycling in the County and in order for this program to continue, financially they need assistance. This is a grant driven program and funds were used to pay bills but he wanted to make it clear that there has been no mis-use of funds at the SWA. Stacey Wise stated that the SWA Board met last night in favor of accepting a Loan Contract with the Commission for \$25,383.93. A motion was made by Jim Andreozzi, seconded by Stacey Wise and unanimously passed to approve the Loan Contract and pay back schedule.

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Commissioner Andreozzi commended our local cities for all their help in the snow removal on our roads due to bad weather. He traveled some of the roads and saw some issues on the roads that could be made better. Sheriff Palmer also commended all for an excellent job on maintaining the roads and keeping traffic flowing.

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Commissioner Ennis indicated that he heard the Governor talking about the inventory tax and wanting to do away with it and the fact that the Commission is working with the Assessor to see how this will affect our county. He stated that we are for economic development but the details on this issue are vague.

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

Payroll Withholdings - ACH - Check Nos. 20203 through 20209 for \$2,047.96

General County Fund - Check Nos. 20169 through 20190 for \$47,133.72
Dog Fund - Check No. 1301 for \$86.00
E-911 Communications - Check Nos. 1887 through 1888 for \$95.95
Ambulance Service Fund - Check Nos. 3641 through 3651 for \$4,703.40
Excess Levy - Check Nos. 20191 through 20202 for \$66,607.02
Fire Levy - Check Nos. 1433 through 1443 for \$4,117.53
Shelter Levy - Check Nos. 602 through 609 for \$23,500.91
Enhanced 911 - Check No. 1889 for \$50.00
Valuation Fund - Check Nos. 1236 through 1239 for \$531.46

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

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Timothy R. Ennis, President

Teste:

Sylvia J. Benzo, Clerk