

REGULAR ADJOURNED SESSION OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF BROOKE COUNTY,
WEST VIRGINIA, HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 23, 2018

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The County Commission of Brooke County, West Virginia met in regular adjourned session this 23rd 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 16, 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 Bob Fowler, Ambulance Director requesting the hiring of Tom Barton for the position of Medic.

A copy of a formal complaint signed by Holly Kossuth, Bobbi Ryan and Ron Law was received pertaining to the property at 411 Tent Church Road, Colliers concerning junk on the property. Commissioner Andreozzi indicated that this is already being investigated.

A letter was received from Sheriff Palmer requesting to hire a new Deputy Sheriff to be named in the future and also that he has appointed Tim Robertson as the PRO Officer at the Brooke Middle School beginning July 1, 2018. The Commission tabled this until they have a chance to talk with Sheriff Palmer. Commissioner Wise felt he was trying to get ahead of the situation because of the new school being built for the middle schoolers.

A letter was received from Sheriff Palmer requesting a new Civil Service test be given due to the fact there is only one person on the current eligible list. This was also sent to the Civil Service Commission.

A request was received from the Secretary of State's Office that each County submit a written Policy on how the County will secure the voting equipment. (Clerk drafted a policy for review). Stacey Wise made a motion, seconded by Jim Andreozzi and passed to approve the policy which will be sent to the Secretary of State's Office.

A copy of the minutes of the Brooke County Solid Waste Authority meeting of November 29, 2017 and the emergency meeting held on January 15, 2018 was received. The meeting of January 15, 2018 was for the SWA Board to approve the Loan Agreement with the Commission.

A letter was received from Charles Baisden, WV State Commander for the Military Order of the Purple Heart asking all counties to issue a proclamation declaring them Purple Heart Counties. Stacey Wise made a motion, seconded by Jim Andreozzi and unanimously passed to approve a Resolution declaring Brooke County a Purple Heart County.

A part-time contract was received and signed for Jacyn Diamond a new employee at the Animal Shelter, Tom Barton, Ambulance Service employee and Donna Acors, Animal Shelter employee.

A copy of the financial statement for year ending June 30, 2017 was received for the Brooke County Public Library.

A budget revision which needs sent to the State Auditor was made to the Coal Severance budget to transfer \$25,000 for the loan for the Brooke County Solid Waste Authority. Stacey Wise made a motion, seconded by Jim Andreozzi and unanimously passed to approve the revision.

A budget revision was made to the expenditure line for Sheriff-Law Enforce in the amount of a \$30,450 increase and the K-9 Unit for \$1,000. A motion was made by Stacey Wise, seconded by Jim Andreozzi and unanimously passed to approve the request. This will be sent to the State Auditor's Office for approval.

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

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Norman Schwertfeger was present and updated the Commission on events including a Regional Tourism meeting scheduled February 20, 2018 in Wetzel County and the EDA will meet in February at the Library.

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Tim Hooper was present and announced that he will set up on February 6, 2018 for those that have questions about the Unclaimed Property.

He also reported the State Auditor will be holding a contest with our children usually in the fourth and fifth grades entitled "When I Grow Up". The criteria has been mailed to the schools for their participation.

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Terry Stewart of the Brooke County Public Service District was present to discuss with the Commission the merger of the Hammond Public Service District and the Brooke County Public Service District employee issues. The Commission indicated that they will meet in executive session since it deals with employees. Commissioner Andreozzi stated that they do not make employee decisions concerning the two districts but are willing to sit down and listen. Mr. Stewart also indicated that he heard that the merger was going to involve the Washington Pike Public Service District as well. Commissioner Andreozzi stated there were talks but as far as he knew this was not going to happen. Ken Fletcher was present and stated he was against the Washington Pike merger.

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Commissioner Wise stated they would have to change the meeting next week and after discussion it will be held on Thursday at 10:30 a.m.

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Sheriff Palmer came into the meeting and discussed several issues with the Commission including the PRO Officer at the new Wellsburg Middle School. He stated that Paul Pinell of the Wellsburg Department showed an interest but there is a question if he has jurisdiction outside the city limits of Wellsburg where he is an officer. He discussed this with Joe Barki, Prosecutor who felt Mr. Pinell would not be covered and mutual aid does not apply. He has reserved a spot with the police academy and felt if it was Mr. Pinell to fill this spot he might be able to use the spot. He explained that when there was overtime for the Route 1 Project other officers assisted in this project. He felt everyone needed to work together on this issue.

Sheriff Palmer also felt a new Civil Service test had to be given because they do not have a back-up list. He discussed asking the Civil Service Board to lower the passing grade for applicants as other counties are doing this to have more of an active list of candidates.

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Sheriff Palmer talked about revisiting the acceptance of bids for E-911 equipment and the consolidation of our E-911 with Hancock County. He indicated that regional E-911 Centers were previously discussed. A meeting was held with the 911 Director of Hancock County but a lot of work including pay rates, hiring, etc. need to be discussed. He wants to be transparent about this for our citizens, dispatchers and first responders. Commissioner Andreozzi stated that they are not far along on this discussion and would have to have some negotiations where no employee would lose their job and

look at the numbers. Commissioner Wise stated that they are going to have to meet with the Hancock County Commission and does not want to put any information out there until they do so.

Sheriff Palmer stated that the DOH has started road repairs on Genteel Ridge at mile marker three and four. The roads are a mess with rubble and mud debris. Commissioner Andreozzi stated that at the BHJ meeting the West Virginia DOH committed to maintenance on some roads.

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Terry Stewart mentioned that the water lines on Genteel Ridge are in terrible shape, especially the line around the Stanley Farm. Commissioner Andreozzi talked about the widening of the road and the water lines. He felt they might want to mark the lines.

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A motion was made by Stacey Wise, seconded by Jim Andreozzi and unanimously passed to re-appoint Eric Fithyan and Ruby Greathouse to the Brooke-Hancock Jefferson Board for another term.

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

Payroll Withholdings - ACH - Check No. 20226 for \$67.00
General County Fund - Check Nos. 20210 through 20225 for \$7,781.78
Coal Severance Fund - Check No. 171 for \$25,383.93
E-911 Communications - Check Nos. 18990 through 1893 for \$1,674.28
Home Confinement - Check No. 1302 for \$16,056.39
Shelter Levy - Check Nos. 610 through 613 for \$646.37
Business Development Corporation - Check No. 159 for \$7,500.00

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Timothy R. Ennis, President

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Sylvia J. Benzo, Clerk