

REGULAR ADJOURNED SESSION OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF BROOKE COUNTY,
WEST VIRGINIA, HELD TUESDAY, JANUARY 29, 2019

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The County Commission of Brooke County, West Virginia met in regular adjourned session this 29th day of January, 2019 at 10:30 a.m. at the Courthouse.

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Present: Tim Ennis, President
Stacey Wise and Andrew J. Thomas, 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 Andrew Thomas seconded by Stacey Wise, and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 22, 2019. Commissioner Ennis abstained as he was on vacation.

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

A copy of the Brooke County Public District minutes of their December 12, 2018 meeting was received.

An e-mail from Rosemary Guida of the Northern Panhandle Workforce Investment Board letting us know there is a job position open at their Wheeling One-Stop Center for the "SNAP Program Coordinator".

A copy of the WV Route 2/Interstate I-68 Authority minutes of their meeting of January 7, 2019 was received. Commissioner Ennis noted that Charlie Clements resigned from the board and indicated it was a pleasure working with him and he will be missed.

A letter was received from the Beazer East, Inc. letting us know that an environmental covenant was recorded for Koppers, Inc. coal tar facility which describes the activity use limitations for the property.

A notice from Comcast letting us know that they will no longer carry the Star Channels and have adjusted the package name and prices.

A copy of the Industrial Lab Analysis results for the Brooke County Animal Shelter was received from Jim Shaffer.

A list of the current Brooke County Economic Development Authority members was received as submitted by Joan Simonetti Beck.

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

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Christina Taylor from the E-911 Office was present asking for an update on the radios. Commissioner Wise indicated that she got all the drawings from Lombardi Development for the tower and hope this project will be done soon.

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Tim Hooper from the State Treasurer's Office was present and let Commissioner Thomas know that the State has a 457 Retirement Plan and a 529 Bright Babies college Savings available. He will be glad to meet with him and discuss this since Mr. Thomas is a new Commissioner.

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Butch Rotellini expressed concerns about the condition of St. John's Road. Commissioner Ennis stated he talked with the Department of Highways in Moundsville and was told a crew will be up next week to do the repairs.

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Norman Schwertfeger, WV Extension Agent was present and reported on the Regional Tourism meeting that was held last week with representatives from Ohio, Pennsylvania and West Virginia present and working together.

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Heather Stone, new chair person of the Brooke County Economic Development Authority (EDA) along with Larry Swanson and Norman Schwertfeger, members were present to update the Commission on happenings in the EDA. Dr. Heather Stone gave each of the Commissioner's a copy of their request for financial assistance. She let the Commission know that she met with members of the Business Development Corporation, since they are the other economic development agency, to discuss the programs they are focusing on. She stated that the BDC appears to focus on industrial and commercial business and the EDA will be focusing on small businesses. She put together a budget which includes a Vista worker and a stipend to be paid to the worker. The next meeting of the EDA will be February 21, 2019 and they will talk about their projects. They have a team put together to share activities with a study forthcoming on what would be best for our community. Norman Schwertfeger wanted to make sure that everyone was aware that their EDA meetings are not closed to the public. Larry Swanson reported that the Downtown Wellsburg group met this week with focus being on revitalization and stated that for the next meeting the Wellsburg Chamber, BDC and URA will be invited with one discussion being on how everyone can better work together rather than as individual groups. The Commission will review their request.

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At about 10:50 a.m. the Commission entered into executive session with Bob Fowler and Any Nickerson of the Ambulance Service to discuss personnel issues.

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At 11:35 a.m. the Commission reconvened their regular meeting with no decisions being made on the executive session.

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The Commission met again with members of the Economic Development Authority who presented some of their goals and requests which included Joan Simonetti-Beck being hired as the Vista worker. Norman Schwertfeger indicated that the EDA had previously requested a \$50,000 budget and had not heard from the Commission. The county has an account in which they receive funds from PA Fashions which are used for economic development, however; there currently is just a small amount in the account. Heather Stone requested the Commission give them a year to show the outcome of their projects. Larry Swanson stated that one of the reasons someone from the EDA tries to attend the Commissioner's meetings is to try and keep up to date with their projects and feels they can provide a report on their progress. Commissioner Ennis stated that the money from PA Fashion is used to pay the Commissions dues to the BDC. He felt the Commission needed to revisit the funds. Norman Schwertfeger provided information on how the Vista worker would be paid. He felt he could turn some of the things he is working on, as a volunteer, over to her (Joan Simonetti-Beck). One project they have been working on recently is a visit to Moe's on Main in Follansbee and how they could help the owner relocate their business, if the building is sold. Larry Swanson reported he has been working with the Wellsburg Downtown group and Follansbee on their vision for downtown. Dr. Stone stated their goal of the EDA is to try and get more people to stay in our area and if they can help businesses, this would provide jobs. The Commission will review the requests of the EDA.

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

General County Fund - Check Nos. 22157 through 22173 for \$28,398.92
Payroll withholding - Check Nos. 22174 through 22182 for \$2,622.88

ACH - \$24,957.91
E-911 - Check No. 2088 for \$59.85
Ambulance Fund - Check Nos. 4115 through 4122 for \$3,775.87
Dog Fund - Check No. 1387 for \$894.80
Shelter Levy - Check Nos. 716 through 719 for \$1,264.92
Valuation Fund - Check Nos. 1306 through 1307 for \$286.97

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

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Timothy R. Ennis, President

Teste:

Sylvia J. Benzo, Clerk