

Barbour County Commission Meeting

June 25, 2021

9:00 am

SUSIE CVECHKO COMMISSION PRESIDENT, JAMIE CARPENTER COMMISSIONER, DAVID STRAIT COMMISSIONER, CONNIE KAUFMAN COUNTY CLERK, SHANA FREY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Kim Lewis, Ed Larry, Karen Larry, Kim Stemple, Dylan Harper, H. David Talbott, Alexis Serback, Carolyn Waddell, Wesley Gray, Brett Carpenter, Derick Spencer, Corey Brandon, Melissa O'Brien, April Sinsel

Susie Cvechko called the meeting to order at 9:00am and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

The commission meeting was held with in-person attendance and via conference call.

On a motion by Jamie Carpenter and seconded by David Strait, the June 7, 2021 and June 15, 2021 meeting minutes were approved. 3/0

Exonerations were presented.

On a motion by David Strait and seconded by Jamie Carpenter, eight (8) final settlements were approved. 3/0

JANET DELORIS KENNEDY, HAZEL LOUISE CRITES, LLOYD ROLAND COLE, MICHAEL ROY JOHNSON, PHILIP KNIGHT, SR., LARRY GALE EVERSON, FRANK ANELLO ZAMBELLI, KATHLEEN MORENO

Tammy Narog submitted a monthly Community Corrections report. Quotes for a Community Corrections vehicle were reviewed. On a motion by David Strait, seconded by Jamie Carpenter, a 2021 Honda CRV was approved from I-79 Honda in the amount of \$30,930.00 from the Criminal Justice Fund. 3/0

Karen Larry was in attendance representing the Philippi Convention and Visitors Bureau. She described its main purpose as promoting tourism. She discussed initiatives that Philippi CVB has supported including the Blue & Gray Reunion, placing tourism ads in various outlets, financial support to an annual bike race, and providing rack cards for visitor centers and other CVB's that promote Philippi. They are working with the City of Philippi and the Barbour County Historical Museum to plan the Lurch Fest on August 7. The CVB's goals include sponsoring tourist related activities, continue financial support to outline Main Street buildings with lights at Christmas, and recently partnered with the City of Philippi to obtain an AmeriCorps grant for digital marketing. The CVB welcomed five new businesses to Philippi last year. Their income comes from hotel/motel tax.

Assessor, Derick Spencer, requested for a special meeting to be scheduled to present the 2020-21 land and personal property books for commission signature.

He requested consent to hire Stacey McCauley, Barbara Rush and Jennifer Phillips to replace vacancies.

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He provided a presentation explaining HJR3 – Property Tax Moderation Amendment. As described by the Assessor, this amendment gives WV Legislature authority to exempt, at their discretion, categories from taxation. Discussions have been held regarding exemption of personal property tax; preliminary reports show that exempting personal property tax will significantly decrease budgets for the county, municipalities and school board with no provisions in place to make up the loss revenues. The amendment will appear on the election ballot in 2022.

Kim Stemple, Barbour Relay for Life, thanked the Commission for their continued support of Relay for Life. She requested to use the Courthouse grounds on August 6 for a luminary festival as well as financial assistance to purchase Survivor shirts. Information was provided on the proper procedures for these requests.

April Sinsel provided an update on fairgrounds events and upcoming events. She requested a Commission Work Session to be scheduled to discuss short-term and long-term goals at the fairgrounds, giving top priority to safety issues. A fireworks display will be held on July 2 at dusk.

Corey Brandon provided an OEM report and discussed damages in the Belington Industrial Park caused by a storm on June 21.

Dylan Harper provided a 911 report and discussed concerns regarding communication restrictions for First Responders in the Audra area and reviewing ways for improvement.

On a motion by Susie Cvechko, seconded by David Strait, Executive Session was entered at 10:43am. 3/0

On a motion by Jamie Carpenter, seconded by David Strait, Regular Session was resumed at 11:00am. 3/0

Susie Cvechko made a motion to appoint Dylan Harper as the Barbour County 911 Director effective immediately, seconded by David Strait. 3/0

Carolyn Waddell was appointed to the Board of Health on a motion by David Strait, seconded by Jamie Carpenter. 2/0

Shana Frey provided a 2020-21 year-end budget synopsis and recommendations for transfers of surplus funds to the County Commission Capital Projects fund. Susie Cvechko made a motion to approve transfers as necessary, seconded by Jamie Carpenter. Upcoming projects from the County Commission Capital Projects fund include the courthouse roof repair and the 911 radio system upgrade. 3/0

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Discussion was held regarding Coal Bed Methane funds. If funds are in excess of \$10,000, the Economic Development Authority receives the funds. If the funds are less than \$10,000, the County Commission receives the funds and can be used on a restrictive basis to offset regional jail costs, community corrections program, volunteer fire department, or libraries. \$2,900.00 was received in 2020-21. Jamie Carpenter made a motion to split these funds in half to Belington and Philippi Public Libraries, seconded by David Strait. 3/0

Commissioner Cvechko introduced Alexis Surback, Barbour County's representative for Center's Against Violence.

David Talbott expressed concerns regarding the Talbott Cemetery upkeep.

The next regular meeting will be held on July 9, 2021 at 9:00am.

A work session is scheduled for July 12, 2021 at 6:00pm to discuss short-term and long-term goals for the fairgrounds.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:32am on a motion by Susie Cvechko, seconded by Jamie Carpenter. 3/0

Susie Cvechko, President

Barbour County
Connie L. Kaufman, Clerk
Instrument 264202
07/09/2021 @ 11:44:02 AM
COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
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