

Barbour County Commission Meeting

March 20, 2020

8:30 am

SUSIE CVECHKO COMMISSION PRESIDENT, TIM MCDANIEL COMMISSIONER, JAMIE CARPENTER COMMISSIONER (by phone), CONNIE KAUFMAN COUNTY CLERK, SHANA FREY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Jim Kines, Kim Lewis, Hunter Mullens, Derick A. Spencer, Brett Carpenter, John Cutright

Susie Cvechko called the meeting to order at 8:30 am and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by Tim McDaniel and seconded by Susie Cvechko, minutes from the March 2, 2020 meeting was approved.

Seven (7) final settlements were presented. On a motion by Tim McDaniel and seconded by Susie Cvechko, the following final settlements were approved.

ROSE LEE POLING, DORIS LOUISE KELLEY, MARY JOSEPHINE HEILMAN, RUTH ANN COONTZ, HOY MITCHELL, SHERMAN ELDORUS WENTZ, SYLIVA MAE WENTZ

Shana Frey presented a budget revision to move the Floater position from the Dog Warden line item to the Other Buildings line item and make the position full time. This employee will work between the Dog Kennel, Fairgrounds and Courthouse. On a motion by Tim McDaniel and seconded by Susie Cvechko, this revision was approved.

Hunter Mullens requested to go into Executive Session to discuss the Opioid Litigation. On a motion by Tim McDaniel and seconded by Susie Cvechko, Executive Session was entered at 8:35 am.

On a motion by Susie Cvechko and seconded by Tim McDaniel, Regular Session resumed at 9:04 am.

Susie Cvechko made a motion to authorize Mullens & Mullens, PLLC and the Law Office of Debra V. Chafin, PLLC to dismiss, when and if appropriate based on their legal strategy, all allegations, but public nuisance and conspiracy, having been advised of the risks in the Opioid Litigation; Tim McDaniel seconded.

Connie Kaufman requested Appointments of Republican and Democratic Poll workers to be approved. It was noted that the Democratic Executive Committee did not fulfill appointments as required and left several precincts with insufficient poll workers. The County Clerk's office will now be seeking poll workers for these precincts. Each precinct will have 6 poll workers- three Democrat and three Republican- plus alternates. On a motion by Tim McDaniel and seconded by Susie Cvechko, the poll worker appointments were approved as presented.

Corey Brandon provided a COVID-19 update. He reported that additional masks were distributed to first responders and OEM is continually working with them on specific requests and needs. A conference call is scheduled at 1:00 with OEM, county medical providers, first responders, local government and businesses.

A resolution was presented to authorize the President of the County Commission to file an application to the Victim of Crime Act (VOCA) Victim Assistance Grant Program. The grant will provide assistance to victims of crime, including but not limited to counseling services assistance, court notification, person advocacy, information, referrals, and assistance with crime compensation claims. The grant totals \$43,687.00. On a motion by Tim McDaniel and seconded by Susie Cvechko, the resolution was approved to submit the VOCA grant application.

255232

Susie Cvechko provided the first reading for the proposed amendment to Ordinance 14-3d-01 Allowing Fire Departments to Charge Fees. The amendment is to adjust fees, as allowed by state code 7-1-3d, for a maximum fee for any single incident or accident not to exceed \$1,500. No further discussion was held.

The proposed 2020-2021 Levy Estimate. General County has revenues totaling \$4,008,088 and Coal Severance revenues totaling \$285,500. The Levy Estimate includes allocations to Volunteer Fire Departments, Emergency Squads, Libraries, Animal Friends, Barbour County Economic Development Authority, Extension Service, and Community Corrections grant match. It also includes a \$0.35 increase for full time employees and a \$.025 increase for part time employees. The Regional Jail expense totals \$415,002 overall. The tax rate of 14.3 was used in these calculations. On a motion by Susie Cvechko and seconded by Tim McDaniel, the Levy Estimate was approved as presented and will be forwarded to the Auditor's Office for review. Susie Cvechko discussed that budget meetings with the Elected Officials were productive and the Commission thanked Shana Frey for her work, explanations and answering of questions.

A 2019-20 budget revision was discussed to move \$10,000 from Coal Severance Other Buildings line item to the Local Health Department line item for future financial assistance. On a motion by Tim McDaniel and seconded by Jamie Carpenter, this revision was approved. Susie Cvechko added that the Health Department is moving in the right direction. Lisa Mayley is the Acting Director and is doing a great job.

Susie Cvechko read an Executive Order for Declaration of a Local State of Emergency for Barbour County in response to COVID-19. This order was approved on a motion by Tim McDaniel and seconded by Susie Cvechko.

Exonerations were presented and approved on a motion by Tim McDaniel and seconded by Susie Cvechko.

The May Election was discussed. Citizens are encouraged to request an Absentee Ballot to vote due to ongoing concerns of COVID-19. A notice will be published in the newspaper and placed on Nixle. The County Clerk's office is in constant contact with the WV Secretary of State's office for COVID-19 updates and guidance.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for April 6, 2020 at 5:00 pm.

On a motion by Tim McDaniel and seconded by Susie Cvechko, the meeting was adjourned at 9:40 am.

Susie Cvechko, President