

Barbour County Commission Meeting
March 25, 2022
9:00 am

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

Dylan Harper, Corey Brandon, Wendy Madden, Brett Carpenter, Cherri Sturm, Kim Lewis, Wesley Gray, Derick Spencer, Robert Parks, Hunter Mullens, Mike Fink, Mark Fink, Levi Gillis

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

On a motion by Jamie Carpenter, seconded by Susie Cvechko, meeting minutes from March 7, 2022 and March 10, 2022 were approved. 2/0

Exonerations were presented.

On a motion by Susie Cvechko, seconded by Jamie Carpenter, six (6) final settlements were approved. 2/0

VELMA ROSALEA ALLEN, ROBERT HOLLEY, LINDA EMMA WHITAKER, DENIS CONRAD WHITAKER, JANEY ANN PARKS, LOWELL DENNIS THOMAS

Wendy Madden, Field Representative with Congressman David B. McKinley, discussed grant and congressional spending opportunities.

The proposed 2022-2023 Levy Estimate was presented with General County Revenues totaling \$4,499,563.00 and Coal Severance Revenues totaling \$285,500.00. The Budget includes Elected Official increases, as a result of SB 172 and a \$0.30/hour increase for full time employees and \$0.15/hour increase for part time employees. Budgeted allocations include Volunteer Fire Departments, Emergency Squads, Libraries, Animal Friends, Barbour County Economic Development, Extension Service, Community Corrections grant match, Tucker Community Foundation Run For It program and Save the Tygart. The Sheriff's Department budget totals \$899,757.00 and the Regional Jail is budgeted at \$550,000 overall. The tax rate of 14.3 remains the same as previous years. The commission met with Elected Officials through a series of work sessions and took requests into consideration. With no further questions or comments, Jamie Carpenter made a motion, David Strait seconded, to approve the Levy Estimate as presented. The Levy Estimate will be forwarded to the WV State Auditor's Office for review. 3/0

Sheriff Carpenter made note that he will be purchasing a printer and software to allow for digital printing of checks in the Sheriff Tax Office. This will eliminate the time consumption of hand writing checks.

Dylan Harper discussed necessary road maintenance at the 185 Antenna Drive tower site. He has received estimates for a culvert and gravel. Companies with equipment on the tower has agreed

March 25, 2022

Page 2

to contribute to the cost of the road maintenance. Work will proceed when permits are received for the culvert placement.

He also discussed recent upkeep to the Fairgrounds tower access road, through an MOU agreement with the DOH. Mr. Harper reported what a great job DOH did.

A contribution grant request was submitted by the City of Belington Board of Parks for new playground equipment in the amount of \$11,665.00. Commissioner Cvechko commented that they have raised \$24,000 during their "Save our Park" campaign and the commission appreciates their efforts of community improvement. On a motion by Jamie Carpenter, seconded by David Strait, this request was approved. Funds will be allocated from CARES Act reimbursements. 3/0

While the County Commission has no authority over the Barbour County Solid Waste Authority, several constituents have expressed dissatisfaction and the desire to keep the Recycling Center services available. Over the last several months, the County Commission has had several discussions and ongoing communication with the Solid Waste Authority regarding the Recycling Center. Organizational changes have taken place and the Solid Waste Authority is requesting financial assistance from the County Commission to support an employee on a regular basis to manage recyclables at the Recycling Center. Commissioner Cvechko talked about being on the Region VI Workforce Board and the various employment programs that could be beneficial to the Solid Waste Authority. Various available grants were also discussed. On a motion by David Strait, seconded by Jamie Carpenter, up to \$20,000 was approved to be allocated on a quarterly basis toward the salary of a Recycling Center employee with an understanding that grants will also be applied for and Region VI Workforce employment programs will be considered. 3/0

Union Community Improvement Association submitted a request for \$1,000 to assist with the payment of their building insurance. On a motion by David Strait, seconded by Susie Cvechko, this request was approved. 3/0

Mr. Robert Parks was present to inquire about the Galloway Senior Center building that is for sale. A discussion was held regarding community interest and plans for the building. Commissioner Cvechko explained that the building was owned by the Barbour County Senior Center and that the board made the decision to sell the building. Inquiries should be with the Senior Center Executive Director.

Quotes were reviewed for pavement sealing of the Courthouse, Family Court and 911 parking lots. On a motion by Jamie Carpenter, seconded by David Strait, the quote from Pro V Services, LLC was approved in the amount of \$6,370.00 for all locations and includes crack fill, seal and line painting. 3/0

March 25, 2022

Page 3

On a motion by Susie Cvechko, seconded by Jamie Carpenter, Executive Session was entered at 9:58 am for attorney discussions on the Opioid litigation. 3/0

On a motion by David Strait, seconded by Jamie Carpenter, Regular Session resumed at 10:52 am. 3/0

Susie Cvechko made a motion to approve the facts and matter contained in the *Answers of the City/County Plaintiff's Collective Answers to Distributor Defendants' Reformulated Discovery Requests* in Case No. 21-C-9000, Kanawha County, West Virginia and to authorize the President of the Commission to sign the same under oath based upon information and belief, Jamie Carpenter seconded. 3/0

The next regular commission meetings are April 4, 2022 at 5:00 pm and April 19, 2022 at 5:00 pm. A work session is scheduled for April 13, 2022 at 3:30 for a prestaton of findings from the county-wide broadband study.

On a motion by David Strait, seconded Jamie Carpenter, the meeting was adjourned at 11:04 am. 3/0

Susie Cvechko, President

Barbour County
Cornie L. Kaufman, Clerk
Instrument 268426
04/05/2022 @ 08:40:05 AM
COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
Book 28 @ Page 321
Pages Recorded 3