

UPSHUR COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING

March 30, 2023

The County Commission of Upshur County, West Virginia, held their regular meeting on Thursday, March 30, 2023 at 9:00 a.m. Kristie Tenney called the meeting to order. Present were: Kristie G. Tenney, Commission President; Samuel R. Nolte, Commissioner; Douglas K. Bush, Commissioner; Carol J. Smith, County Clerk; Tabatha R. Perry, County Administrator; Cindy M. Hughes, Assistant County Administrator and Lois A. Marsh, Secretary.

The meeting began with a moment of silent meditation and prayer, followed by the Pledge of Allegiance. All motions passed unanimously unless otherwise stated.

After discussion, on motion by Doug Bush, seconded by Sam Nolte, the Commission approved the meeting minutes of March 23, 2023, as submitted.

Kristie Tenney reviewed scheduled appointments and agenda items.

After discussion, on motion by Sam Nolte, seconded by Doug Bush, the Commission approved the Resignation of Employee.

After discussion, on motion by Doug Bush, seconded by Sam Nolte, the Commission approved the appointment of Jesse Davidson to the Upshur County Fire Board. The term will be effective July 1, 2023 and replaces the community representative vacancy forthcoming from a resident of the 3rd Magisterial District, who has exhausted the two-term limit. (copy included)

After discussion, on motion by Doug Bush, seconded by Sam Nolte, the Commission approved the advertisement for a full-time Deputy Clerk – Bookkeeper in the County Clerk’s Office. Applications received by April 21, 2023 will be reviewed; however, applications may be considered until position is filled. (copy included)

After discussion, on motion by Sam Nolte, seconded by Doug Bush, the Commission approved and authorized the Commission President to sign the Community Development Block Grant Final Performance Report, Budget Amendment #6, Grant Amendment #6 and Request for Payment in the amount of \$19,259.29, for the Elkins Road PSD Phase III Water System Improvements Project. This is for Request for Funds #32. (copy included)

After discussion, on motion by Doug Bush, seconded by Sam Nolte, the Commission approved and authorized the Commission President to sign the WV Courthouse Facilities Improvement Authority Fund – 18th Cycle – Project Completion Report and Request for Reimbursement. (copy included)

After discussion, on motion by Doug Bush, seconded by Sam Nolte, the Commission approved a revision to the previously approved Minimum Vehicle Specifications for one Sport Utility Vehicle for the Upshur County Sheriff’s Law Enforcement Office. Sealed proposals must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on Wednesday, April 12, 2023, at the Administrative Annex, located at 91 West Main Street, Suite 101. Bids received by the deadline will be publicly opened, reviewed and read aloud by the Commission at 9:15 a.m. on Thursday, April 13, 2023. Tabatha Perry explained that this is a clarification of the tire size requirement. (copy included)

Kristie Tenney reviewed the following “For Your Information” items: (copy included)

1. Correspondence from the Upshur County Homeless and Housing Coalition extending an invitation to join the coalition in an effort to work proactively to provide support to those who are homeless within the area.
2. Correspondence from TC Energy, Columbia Gas Transmission, LLC, stating they are planning to perform routine surveying on its pipeline along three parcels of land in Upshur County between March 27 and March 31, 2023.
3. Upshur County Sheriff’s Financial Statement for period ending February, 2023.
4. Public Notices:
 - a) Newsletters and/or Event Notifications:
 - Broadband Listening Session March 30, 2023
 - b) Agendas and/or Notice of Meetings:
 - City Council of Buckhannon – *Special Meeting* March 30, 2023Meeting Minutes: (none)
 - c) Meetings: ****Dates and times of monthly board meetings are viewable at:***
<http://cms4.revize.com/revize/upshurwv/calendar.php> or go to www.upshurcounty.org and click on the board meetings calendar box on the main page.
5. Appointments Needed or Upcoming:
 - Upshur County Enhanced Emergency Telephone Advisory Board – unexpired term June 30, 2023 (*Community Representative*)
 - Upshur County Enhanced Emergency Telephone Advisory Board – unexpired term June 30, 2024 (*Fire Service*)
 - Tennerton Public Service District – unexpired term July 31, 2023

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****If you are interested in serving as an Upshur County Board, please submit your letter of interest to the Commission Office at 91 West Main Street, Suite 101, Buckhannon, WV 26201 or chughes@upshurcounty.org. Upcoming term expirations are listed in this section of the agenda; however, letters of interest can be submitted at any time. Letters of interest for a board that does not currently have a vacancy will be held until a vacancy occurs. Please note that submitting a letter of interest does not guarantee appointment.****

Tabled Items: (none)

The Commission approved all Invoices for Payment: (list included)

The Commission approved all Vacation Orders: (list included)

The Commission approved the following Settlements: (as listed)

- Rita Karen Barker – Final Settlement Waiver
- Dorothy Pauline Casto – Final Settlement Waiver
- Betty H. Durst – Final Settlement Waiver
- William Bradley Perkins – Final Settlement Waiver

The Commission approved the following Certification of Completion of Ancillary Administration of WV Real Estate Without Appointment: (none)

The Commission approved the following Corrections, Exonerations and Refunds:

- William D & Darlene K Riley - #306442 - \$0.00 – Correction Order
- Messinger Larry - #300400 - \$99.36 – Exoneration Order
- Messenger Larry or Dessie - #100000346S - \$340.42 – Exoneration Order
- Messenger Larry or Dessie - #100000261S - \$306.38 – Exoneration Order
- Darren L or Christina M - #700000315S - \$157.48 – Exoneration Order
- Loudin Shannon - #21432 - \$539.55 – Exoneration Order

The Commission approved Requests to Attend Meeting: (none)

The Commission approved the following Consolidation Land Tracts: (none)

At 9:15 a.m., Craig Presar, 4-H Agent representing the WVU Upshur County Extension Office, appeared before the Commission to present opportunities provided through the Extension Office. Mr. Presar reported that the 4-H club shooting sports program has been very successful. Ms. Dani Hovis, along with three other representatives from West Virginia, will travel to the National 4-H Camp in Nebraska to compete in national air rifle competitions. Also, there will be four local youths competing in the National Archery competition in Kentucky. Eli Bryant is in the top 5 in archery in the country. Every student in Upshur County received education in archery. Older 4-H camp (ages 13 and up) will be held the week of June 4th and Younger 4-H camp (ages 9 through 12) will be held the week of June 11th. There will also be a Cloverbud Day Camp (ages 5 through 8) held at the end of June. There are five active CEOS groups in Upshur County, comprised of approximately 120 women and men.

Tasha Harris, Natural Resource Coordinator for Upshur County, appeared before the Commission to give an update on activities pertaining to livestock education. In 2022, at the livestock auction, there were 12 exhibitors with 22 bidders. Majority of the exhibitors use the monies raised from these sales for secondary education. Last year, 18 youth and 13 adults provided strawberries for the Strawberry Festival Auction, raising \$17,150.

At 9:45 a.m., Samantha Ribeiro Matos appeared before the Commission and provided statistics from the CDC showing that in the 8-year old age group, 1 in 36 children are diagnosed with autism. Upshur County Sheriff's Department and West Virginia State Police have been provided three "autism sensory bags", which include weighted blanket, fidgets, chewies, color wonder system, cup with removable lid, sun glasses, ear muffs, book with sensory pages and magni-tiles to be used as needed. After discussion, on motion by Doug Bush, seconded by Sam Nolte, the Commission approved and signed the Proclamation celebrating April as Autism Awareness Month. (copy included)

At 10:00 a.m., Lori Uldrich Harvey, Upshur County Family Resource Network Director and Team Leader for Upshur County Partners in Prevention, appeared before the Commission to request that the Month of April, 2023 be proclaimed as Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month. After discussion, on motion by Doug Bush, seconded by Sam Nolte, the Commission proclaimed the Month of April, 2023 as Child Abuse Prevention and Awareness Month. (copy included)

At 10:45 a.m., Randy Sanders, Chairman of WAMSB 2023 Organizing Committee, appeared before the Commission to introduce Mr. Nicholas Nii Tettey-Amarteifio and Evelyn Naa-Dei Thompson, representatives from the National Cadet Corps Band based in Ghana. The representatives from Ghana were visiting Buckhannon to prepare for their visit in July for the WAMSB 2023 band competition. The WAMSB 2023 Organizing Committee has been busy finalizing plans to welcome 27 bands from 16 countries the week of July 17th. Matt Gregory, Buckhannon Police Chief; J.B. Kimble, Buckhannon Fire Department Chief; and Steve Wykoff, DHSEM Coordinator, have been working tirelessly to create a robust security system for this event.

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The Commission received project updates and reviewed Administrative business items.

With no further business, on motion by Sam Nolte, seconded by Doug Bush, the Commission meeting adjourned at 11:20 a. m.