

Monroe Commission Holds February Meeting

The Monroe County Commission met in regular session on February 6, 2013 at the Courthouse. Shane Ashley, President of the Commission, called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer.

The County Commission reviewed a letter from the WV Division of Culture and History's Records Management and Preservation Board. This letter advised the County Clerk and Circuit Clerk have each been awarded a \$10,000.00 grant to assist in the indexing and scanning of records in their respective offices. The indexing and scanning of these records will provide a digital back up of the records and allow those searching such records to access them by a computer. This process will also eliminate future wear and tear on the record books since they won't have to be handled. Donald J. Evans, County Clerk and Leta Gullette-Comer, Circuit Clerk, prepared their respective grant applications.

Garry Taylor, Chairman of the county's Planning Commission appeared before the Commission and provided them with an update of the activities of the Planning Commission. Mr. Taylor reported that Jim Menard, a member of the Planning Commission is resigning because he is relocating out of state.

Tim Wilson, 911 Director, appeared before the County Commission providing an update of the activities of the 911 Center. Wilson provided the monthly Wrecker Response Report for the month of January. It is as follows; Galford's received 10 calls, Neel's 3, Offenberger's 2, and Atwell's and Wilson's received one call each. At the request of the County Commission, Wilson presented the County Commission with two proposals, one from Bay's Services to install cameras within the 911 Center and in the holding cell that is used to house inmates awaiting court. The second proposal was for the annual maintenance of the new generator recently installed at the 911 Center. This proposal was from Greenbrier Electromotive, the company that installed the new generator. The Commission took no action on either proposal. Wilson also advised the County Commission he has hired two part-time employees. He also advised Duane Miller Construction Services will begin the construction of the office for the county's Emergency Operations Center, to be located on the lower level of the 911 Center, sometime next week.

It was reported that only one mobile home remains occupied in the former Moody's Mobile Home Park in Peterstown. The County Commission will ask the Sheriff to visit this mobile home and advise the residents that the mobile home park has been closed by a court order of the Monroe County Circuit Court and they need to make arrangements to relocate. The Commission will assist the individual in finding alternative housing if needed.

Commissioners agreed to remain on the various committees they have been previously been appointed to for this upcoming year. Budget meetings were scheduled for March 7th and 14th. Both meetings will begin at 9:00 am.

The County Commission reviewed the monthly meeting minutes of the Gap Mills PSD and appointed Duane Miller to the Region 1 Planning and Development Council.

At the request of David Bradley, owner of the Fountain Springs Golf Course, the County Commission unanimously agreed to send the Division of Highways a

letter asking them to take the road that runs through the golf course and surrounding housing development, into the state road system.

Matt Mann, owner of M-Rock Stone Manufacturing, located near Peterstown, appeared before the County Commission and provided an update on his business. Mann said he currently employs 30 individuals and hopes to hire more in the near future. Also attending this meeting as Steve Weir, Executive Director of the Greenbrier Valley Economic Development Corporation, Bill Shiflet, Bill Wickline and Aaron Judy, GVEDC board members and Richard Ellard.

Representatives from WORKFORCE appeared before the County Commission and provided information on programs that the WORKFORCE program offers. These representatives said they have worked with both Goodrich and M-Rock on training individuals for employment.

The County Clerk advised Commissioners that he has spoken to a representative from the Division of Highways in Lewisburg concerning a previous request made by the Commission to have an old building in Ballard tore down that is causing a traffic hazard. The building sits on the Division of Highways right of way. Officials from the division said they are still working on the Commission's request and would get back to them soon. This building was previously used as a barbershop.

The County Commission adopted resolutions of support for the Circuit Clerk's Office and the Bozoo Ruritan Club. Both these entities are applying for grant funds to the Governor's Community Participation Grant Program. The Circuit Clerk proposes to use the funds to purchase file cabinets and the Ruritan Club plans to use these funds to make improvements to the Bozoo Community Building.

Leta Gullette-Comer, Circuit Clerk, appeared before the County Commission requesting that her temporary part time employee position be made a permanent part time position. The Commission took no action on this request.

Assessor Norb Netzel appeared before the County Commission. Mr. Netzel provided the Commission with an update on the activities of the Assessor's Office. Netzel said one of his priorities is to get the county's tax maps converted to a GIS mapping system. He said the cost of this system was about \$60,000.00. Netzel advised Commissioners that he would be visiting the Walnut Springs development within the next year. He said he plans to review the assessments of each of the properties in this development and make any adjustments in the assessments, as he deems necessary. Mr. Netzel then brought up the issue of space in the Assessor's Office. He said he wasn't sure what the answer was but they simply needed more room. The County Commission advised that they were aware space was limited in his office as was the case with other county offices. Commission President Shane Ashley said the Commission was going to have to deal with this issue in the near future. Netzel said he was going to use several methods in getting the word out about individuals submitting their Farm Statistic Reports. He said he planned to attend civic meetings and prepare print material in an effort to remind those to make sure they file their report by the deadline.

The County Commission appointed Gary Clarkson to the county's Farmland Protection Board and reviewed a proposal to replace the ceiling tile in the Circuit

Courtroom and the jury and conference rooms. No action was taken on this proposal.

Commissioner Ashley reported that a piece of county owned property, consisting of 1.26 acres, located near Springfield Comprehensive Care Center in Lindsie, was sold at public auction on the Courthouse steps for \$10,000.00. Springfield Center purchased the property.

The County Commission again discussed a previous request to change the name of the John Dowdy Road to the Becky Jane Holler road. Commissioner Ashley said he wanted to speak with Tim Wilson, 911 Director, about this request before the Commission acted on the request.

The County Commission will meet again in special session on March 6, 2013 at the Courthouse. If you would like to be placed on the agenda, please call 772-3096.