

County Commission Holds June Meeting

The Monroe County Commission met in regular session on June 1, 2011 at the Courthouse. Commission President Shane Ashley called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and invocation.

Chris Carey, representing the WV Counties Risk Pool, appeared before the County Commission and presented them with a proposal from the West Virginia Counties Risk Pool to provide the county with worker's compensation insurance. The county presently has liability and casualty insurance with WVCORP but American Mining, Inc. provides the county's worker's compensation insurance. After hearing Mr. Carey's proposal Commissioners voted unanimously to switch their worker's compensation coverage from American Mining, Inc. to the WV Counties Risk Pool.

Shannon Parker, CEO of the Monroe Health Center and Rebekah Stone, Finance Manager, met with the County Commission and provided a financial report as well as a capital improvement report for the Health Center. Commissioners thanked Ms. Parker and Ms. Stone for all the improvements they have made and continue to make at the Health Center.

The County Commission named the Bank of Monroe, First National Bank of Peterstown and First Community Bank as depositories for the county for fiscal year 2011-2012. Commissioners awarded a bid to Duane Miller Construction Services to replace the window in the Circuit Clerk's Office. The Commission also awarded a bid to Kevin Glover to remove the two trees and bushes that are located right up against the front of the Courthouse. Glover's bid includes the removal and / or grinding of the stumps.

Commissioners reviewed May's Regional Jail bill, which was \$20,203.00 and also reviewed the monthly meeting minutes of the Red Sulphur and Gap Mills Public Service Districts. The County Commission approved a proposal from Sheriff Mike Gravely to purchase a software program needed to submit the Sheriff's Department's criminal reports to the state. The current software is antiquated and no longer functional.

Three students from Scottie's Place appeared before the County Commission and each student read a letter they had written concerning the adverse effects of gas drilling. Paul Winter and Jo-El Wadsworth, owners and operators of Scottie's Place, accompanied the students. The students plan to forward their letters to their legislative representatives and the Governor.

The Commission accepted the resignation of Susan Bumgardner as a member of the Monroe Health Center Board of Trustees and approved a drawdown request for the Greenville Water Project in the amount of \$196,465.55.

Commissioner Gum provided an update on the Courthouse Energy Efficient and Conservation projects. He said the downstairs entrance door and the record room door have been replaced and work has begun on the replacement of the Courthouse boiler. Other work scheduled is the replacement of the lights in the Courthouse, 911 Center and Prosecuting Attorney's Office and the installation of a heating and air conditioning system in the Prosecuting Attorney's Office. The County Commission approved invoices in the amount of \$5,976.62, \$1,306.72 and \$2,110.97 from Greener Pastures, Inc. These invoices are for the light replacement portion of the project. This project will improve energy efficiency at the Courthouse and is being funded from a \$90,000.00 grant from the Department of Energy.

Commissioner Gum also provided a report from a couple meetings he had recently attended on behalf of the County Commission.

Rod Graves and Jim Menard, representing the county's Planning Commission, met with the County Commission and provided an update of the Planning Commission's activities. Graves told Commissioners that the Memorandum of Understanding between the county and Gordy Oil Company has been executed by both parties. Menard presented the County Commission with a draft of an amended Dilapidated Building Ordinance to review. The Planning Commission prepared this draft.

A total of eight final estate settlements and four exonerations were approved.

