

WEST VIRGINIA:

At a regular meeting of the Raleigh County Commission held on the 7th day of November, 2023 in the Commission Courtroom thereof:

CALL TO ORDER

President Tolliver called the meeting to Order.

-0-

ROLL CALL

Present: David Tolliver, President
Linda K. Epling, Commissioner - absent
Greg Duckworth, Commissioner
Carl Roop, County Attorney
Jay Quesenberry, County Administrator
Billy Michael, Assistant County Administrator

-0-

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting was opened with the invocation by Captain Liz Blusiewicz of the Salvation Army in Beckley and the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

-0-

EXONERATIONS

Commissioner Duckworth moved to approve 6 exonerations, 4 cancellations and 1 refund for personal property; and 3 exonerations, 1 cancellation and 0 letters of correction for real property as presented today. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Tolliver and motion carried. (SEE EXHIBIT A)

-0-

BUDGET REVISIONS

Commissioner Duckworth moved to approve the Budget Revision of the Sheriff - Law Enforcement – Employee Salary in the amount of \$2,916.25. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tolliver and motion carried. (SEE EXHIBIT B)

-0-

NEW EMPLOYEE – RALEIGH COUNTY SHERIFF’S TAX OFFICE – CINTHIA BOLEN, TAX DEPUTY

Upon the recommendation of Sheriff Canaday, a motion was made by Commissioner Duckworth to approve the hiring of Cinthia Bolen to fill a full-time position as a Tax Deputy for the Raleigh County Sheriff’s Department. Seconded by Commissioner Tolliver and motion carried. (SEE EXHIBIT C)

-0-

NEW EMPLOYEE – RALEIGH COUNTY ASSESSOR – STEPHANIE HACKWORTH, APPRAISER

Upon recommendation of Raleigh County Assessor Linda Sumner, a motion was made by Commissioner Duckworth to approve the hiring of Stephanie Hackworth to fill a full-time position as an Appraiser for the Raleigh County Assessor’s Office. Seconded by Commissioner Tolliver and motion carried. (SEE EXHIBIT D)

-0-

OPEN BIDS FOR COURTHOUSE RADIATOR HEATING PROJECT

The following three bids were received for the Courthouse radiator heating project:

Childers Enterprises	\$34,500.00
Pennington	66,800.00
Casto Technical Services	162,000.00

Upon the recommendations of Detlef Ulfers and Billy Michaels, a motion was made by Commissioner Duckworth to approve the bid of Childers Enterprises for the Courthouse radiator heating project. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tolliver and motion carried. (SEE EXHIBIT E)

-0-

CONSIDERATION OF RALEIGH COUNTY BROADBAND GIG READY PROJECT LEASE AGREEMENT

A motion was made by Commissioner Duckworth to approve the Gigready Lease with Purchase Option Agreement with Gigabeam Networks LLC. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tolliver and motion carried. (SEE EXHIBIT F)

-0-

CONSIDERATION OF RALEIGH COUNTY BROADBAND GIG READY PROJECT RESOLUTION

Commissioner Duckworth moved to approve the Resolution for the Gigready Grant in the amount of \$5,889,198.00 for the purpose of improving broadband connectivity for residents and businesses in Raleigh County. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tolliver and motion carried. (SEE EXHIBIT G)

-0-

INTENTIONALLY LEFT BLANK

CONSIDERATION OF PURCHASE OF WATER SYSTEM TELEMETRY FOR RALEIGH COUNTY PSD

A motion was made by Commissioner Duckworth to approve the Raleigh County PSD Telemetry System Upgrade in the amount of \$430,800.00. This upgrade is for satellite telemetry to bring the tank, booster and valve sites data back to a web-based telemetry system designed by C2G Engineering. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tolliver and motion carried.
(SEE EXHIBIT H)

-0-

CONSIDERATION OF THE ANNEXATION OF 613.24 ACRES IN THE PINEY CREEK PRESERVE, TOWN DISTRICT

Upon the recommendation of City of Beckley Attorney William File, Commissioner Duckworth moved to approve the annexation of 613.24 acres in the Piney Creek Preserve adjacent to the City of Beckley. Seconded by Commissioner Tolliver and motion carried. (SEE EXHIBIT I)

-0-

CONSIDERATION OF A GRANT TO THE NEW RIVER TRANSIT AUTHORITY FOR \$33,000.00

A motion was made by Commissioner Duckworth to approve a Grant to the New River Transit Authority for a one-time grant in the amount of \$33,000.00. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tolliver and motion carried. (SEE EXHIBIT J)

-0-

CONSIDERATION OF DRAWDOWN #13 FOR THE WHITE OAK WATER PROJECT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$68,874.21

Commissioner Duckworth moved to approve the AML Pilot Program Grant Drawdown #13 for the White Oak Water Project. Seconded by Commissioner Tolliver and motion carried. (SEE EXHIBIT K)

-0-

CONSIDERATION OF AMENDMENT #2 WITH LAWSON ENGINEERING FOR THE PINEY VIEW BADOFF MOUNTAIN SEWER EXTENSION FOR \$30,000.00

Commissioner Duckworth moved to approve Amendment #2 with Lawson Engineering for the Piney View Badoff Mountain Sewer Extension in the amount of \$30,000.00. Seconded by Commissioner Tolliver and motion carried.
(SEE EXHIBIT L)

-0-

CONSIDERATION OF THE CREATION AND OPENING OF BANK ACCOUNT FOR FUND 41 - COUNTY FIRE PROTECTION FUND

A motion was made by Commissioner Duckworth to approve the creation and opening of a bank account for Fund 41, the County Fire Salary Enhancement Protection Fund. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tolliver and motion carried.

-0-

CONSIDERATION OF THE CREATION AND OPENING OF BANK ACCOUNT FOR FUND 40 - OPIOID SETTLEMENT FUND

Commissioner Duckworth moved to approve the creation and opening of a bank account for Fund 40, the Opioid Settlement Fund. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tolliver and motion carried.

-0-

CONSIDERATION OF FISCAL YEAR 2023 PROJECT SAFE NEIGHBORHOODS GRANT FOR RALEIGH COUNTY LAW ENFORCEMENT CAMERA PROGRAM IN THE AMOUNT OF \$40,000.00

A motion was made by Commissioner Duckworth to approve the Project Safe Neighborhoods Grant Program Application for the purchase of cellular surveillance cameras to be purchased and placed throughout the county to help combat gun-related and violent crimes. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tolliver and motion carried. (SEE EXHIBIT M)

-0-

CONSIDERATION OF FISCAL YEAR 2023 HOMELAND SECURITY GRANT APPLICATION FOR CRIME SCENE/EVIDENCE MANAGEMENT EQUIPMENT IN THE AMOUNT OF \$87,125.00

Commissioner Duckworth moved to approve the Homeland Security Grant Program Award in the amount of \$87,125.00 for the purchase of an Evidence Management Platform. Seconded by Commissioner Tolliver and motion carried.
(SEE EXHIBIT N)

-0-

OLD BUSINESS

None

-0-

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Lewis Mason – Colcord resident

Mr. Mason stated he and other residents have contacted Animal Control regarding abandoned animals in the Colcord area. Mr. Michaels stated citations have been issued and several animals have been picked up but the Rescues and Humane Society are full. Mr. Mason stated the community is willing to help. He encouraged the offenders be picked up if not the animals. Mr. Mason also questioned being notified if there is a boil water alert. Mr. Michaels informed him the county has this service available through the App Head's Up.

Dave Gentry – Civil Service Commission

Mr. Gentry updated the Commission of the results of the Physical and Written tests of the applicants for the Raleigh County Sheriff's Department. Five applicants passed the testing

Dan Ferrell – Engineer -Thrasher

Mr. Ferrell informed the Commission that Sophia is in need of a new Waste Water Treatment plant. Mr. Ferrell requested the Commission use ARC funds to assist in funding this project in the amount of \$100,000.00.

Ron Hedrick – Veterans Cemetery

Mr. Hedrick met with the American Legion regarding the upkeep of the Veterans Cemetery. The American Legion is no longer able to provide the upkeep due to the aged membership and lack of funding. The cemetery has 254 Veterans, including the first soldier killed in the Korean War. Mr. Hedrick is working with Sherrie Hunter to start a perpetual fund for the upkeep. Several needs have already been met including a flag pole, steps, handrails, and roofing on an old building. Commissioner Tolliver stated the Commission will make a decision on this at the November 28, 2024 meeting. Mr. Hedrick stated their will be a ceremony for Veteran’s Day at the Cemetery at 8:00 a.m.

-0-

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

None

-0-

VACATION ORDERS

Commissioner Duckworth moved to approve the Vacation Orders from October 17, 2023 to November 6, 2023, inclusive. Seconded by Commissioner Tolliver and motion carried. (SEE EXHIBIT O)

-0-

FINAL ACCOUNTINGS AND WAIVERS OF FINAL SETTLEMENT

The following Objection and Exceptions of the Fiduciary Supervisor were read into the minutes. (SEE EXHIBIT P)

-0-

BILLS, COMMUNICATIONS AND APPOINTMENTS

A motion was made by Commissioner Duckworth to approve the appointment of Michael Gerard Power to the Cool Ridge/Flat Top PSD Board for the term expiring December 31, 2028. The motion was seconded by Commissioner Tolliver and motion carried. (SEE EXHIBIT Q)

-0-

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Epling moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regular scheduled meeting of this Commission on November 21, 2023 at 10:00 a.m. Seconded by Commissioner Duckworth and motion carried.

s/s

David Tolliver
President