

COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES  
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 17, 2024

PRESENT: SEAN SIKORA, President  
THOMAS BLOOM, Member  
JEFFREY ARNETT, Member

1. Moment of Silent Meditation and Pledge to the Flag

2. Call to Order

The Monongalia County Commission met in regular session on the 17<sup>th</sup> day of April 2024 beginning at 10:02 A.M. in the Monongalia County Commission Meeting Room, at the Monongalia County Courthouse. Agendas attached. A video copy of the work session will be available upon written request to the County Commission at cost.

3. Consent and Approval – (see exhibit)

A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried for the Commission to give their consent and approval to the following agenda items:

- a) Erroneous Assessments – None
- b) Commission Minutes – April 10, 2024
- c) Pay Vouchers
- d) Miscellaneous Bonds, etc.
- e) Budget Revisions
  - i) State Approval – General Fund
    - (1) State Grants (443)
  - ii) In-House – Various Minor Funds
    - (1) Recreation Levy Fund (033-900)
    - (2) County Fire Protection Fund (041-433)
    - (3) EMS Salary Enhancement Fund (042-443)
- f) Vacancies for Boards and Authorities
- g) Fiduciary Orders as noted on exhibit
  - i) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to deny the motion for a hearing in the Estate of Arthur P. Scotchel.
  - ii) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to grant a 30-day extension to resolve the objections in the Estate of Margorie L. Langdon.

4. Introduction of new employees/personnel changes – None

5. Comments from the Public

Louis Scotchel, Sr., 1444 Saratoga Avenue, Morgantown, WV – Requested that the Commission reconsider their denial for a hearing in the Arthur P. Scotchel estate.

6. Proclamation – Sexual Assault Awareness Month

Proclamation read by Hannah Richards on behalf of the Rape and Domestic Violence Information Center. A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to proclaim April 2024 as Sexual Assault Awareness Month. The Rape and Domestic Violence Information Center will be hosting a Walking with Survivors event on April 20, 2024.

7. Grants

A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve requests for reimbursements for the Governor's Highway Safety Program grants for Safe Communities (\$1,882.44), Click It or Ticket (\$362.52), Impaired Driving (\$3,509.28), and Distracted Driving (\$317.70) and the Community Development Block grant (\$1,693.44).

8. Correspondence

a) Notice of Approval of the FY 2025 Levy Estimate (Budget) from the West Virginia State Auditor's Office.

9. Unfinished Business – None

10. New Business

a) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve sending the "Monongalia County Subdivision and Land Development Ordinance" back to the Planning Commission to reconcile with recent changes in the state code made in Senate Bill 782. A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to cancel the second reading and public hearings for the proposed ordinance.

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b) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve the Public Health Fees for Permit schedule for the Monongalia County Health Department. Anthony DeFelice, Monongalia County Health Department Executive Director, thanked the Commission for passing the rates and introduced the new Health Officer Dr. Brian Huggins. The retiring Health Officer Dr. Lee Smith thanked the Commission for their support over the years.

c) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve Requisition No. 89 for the University Town Centre Economic Opportunity Development District Subaccount in the amount of \$798,781.01.

d) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve Requisition No. 8 for the University Town Centre Series 2023 A Property Tax District Administrative Expense Fund in the amount of \$4,034.60.

e) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve Requisition No. 86 for the University Town Centre Excise Tax District Administrative Expense Fund in the amount of \$2,372.50.

f) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve Requisition No. 17 for the Star City Administrative Expense Fund in the amount of \$273.75.

g) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve Requisition No. 10 for the Mon General-Maple Drive Series 2016 C Administrative Expense Fund in the amount of \$503.75.

h) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve the commencement of negotiations with the West Virginia Department of Transportation regarding the I-79 Chaplin Hill Gateway Project. Bill Austin, Morgantown Monongalia Metropolitan Planning Organization (MMMPO) Executive Director, explained the grant process and the partnerships involved.

i) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to approve the proposal received by the County Commission from the West Virginia Communities Risk Pool for the county's general liability and workers compensation insurance with the effective date of July 1, 2024.

11. Reports from Elected Officials and Department Supervisors – None

12. Reports from County Commissioners

Commissioner Bloom – Meeting with Executive Director of West Virginia First Foundation Jonathan Board (toured potential site for main office, sent notifications for re-appointment of West Virginia First Foundation Region 4 Director), attended Blacksville City Council meeting (thanked Blacksville Mayor Zack Rush and Blacksville City Council for their invitation).

Commissioner Arnett – Ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new MECCA 911 center.

Commissioner Sikora – Ribbon-cutting ceremony at the new MECCA 911 center, thanked Dr. Lee Smith for his years of service at the Monongalia County Health Department, thanked all the staff at the Monongalia County Health Department for their work.

13. Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Bloom and unanimously carried to adjourn at 10:46 A.M.

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SEAN P. SIKORA  
President

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THOMAS C. BLOOM  
Member

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JEFFREY L. ARNETT  
Member

*Approved on:*