UPSHUR COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING
February 9, 2017

The County Commission of Upshur County, West Virginia, held their regular meeting at the Courthouse Annex on Thursday, February 9, 2017 at 9:00 a.m. Terry Cutright called the meeting to order. Present were Terry Cutright, Commissioner; Troy A. Brady, Commissioner; Sam Nolte, Commissioner; Carol Smith, Upshur County Clerk; Carrie Wallace, County Administrator; Tabatha Perry, Assistant County Administrator and Jacqueline Dinklocker, 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 Troy A. Brady, seconded by Sam Nolte, the Commission approved the regular meeting minutes of January 26, 2017 as submitted and February 2, 2017 with typographical corrections.

Terry Cutright provided a review of Agenda Items to be covered in today’s meeting.

James Lanier, Upshur County resident, appeared before the Commission to discuss the Upshur County Youth Baseball Association’s lease for the property known as the Wellness Complex located on Brushy Fork Road. Terry Cutright provided a review of some of the terms of the lease agreement and advised that the terms of the agreement concerning mowing services have not been provided as stipulated in the lease. Mr. Lanier, who was appearing in place of Jason Westfall, reported that he will be providing mowing services of the sports field in the future beginning as soon as weather permits and also discussed the pros and cons of contracting for mowing services. After discussion, Commissioner Cutright suggested waiting until next year to get bids for mowing services. Rodney Rolenson, Community Corrections representative, advised that at one time, mowing was an assignment of community service.

Commissioner Nolte expressed concerns that the fields are not being utilized. Mr. Lanier responded that the UCYBA is motivated and working out plans to partner with youth soccer to better use the fields. Mr. Lanier reported that the UCYBA board members have met with Chapman Technical representatives in order to develop the fields and have scheduled fundraising events to finance their project. Commissioners requested that an update be provided to the Commission in about a month.

Cheyenne Walters, Community Corrections Program Director, appeared before the Commission and provided a review of the 2016 Annual Report (copy on file in the office of the Upshur County Commission). Ms. Walters provided data which reflects substantial savings vs. the cost of regional jail fees. The 26th Judicial Circuit Community Corrections Program serves both Lewis and Upshur counties.

Rodney Rolenson, Home Confinement Supervisor, appeared before the Commission and provided a review of the 2016 Upshur County Home Confinement Year End Report (copy on file in the office of the Upshur County Commission). Cpl. Rolenson reported a savings of $897,041.60 over the cost of regional jail fees and advised that “all bracelets” are now using GPS technology and have benefitted in the monitoring of clients with better tracking ability.

Lindsay Bever, Buckhannon-Upshur Youth Leadership Association representative, appeared before the Commission and presented a review of her “Save the Bees” bill. The UCYLA is a part of a national organization which encourages student involvement and education in the process of government. Ms. Bever discussed how bees are essential to the ecological balance of society. The purpose of her bill is “to provide pesticide free areas (for pollination)”. Ms. Bever will present her bill
before the 60th YLA Student Legislature in April and requests the support of the Commission, the City of Buckhannon and the Department of Highways and more specifically, requested to use county owned FEMA properties for the purpose of planting low maintenance wildflowers to attract and propagate bee populations. Terry Cutright suggested to Ms. Bever that she also talk with the Park and Recreation Board to see if they might have an interest in planting along trails.

Yvonne Burch, intern with Community Corrections, appeared before the Commission and provided a slideshow presentation (to go along with Cheyenne Walters and Rodney Rolenson’s reports) on “Reducing Recidivism” which demonstrated the effectiveness of the Community Corrections program.

After discussion, on motion by Troy A. Brady, seconded by Sam Nolte, the Commission approved the James W. Curry Scholarship Announcement and Application for 2017 (copy included).

After discussion, on motion by Sam Nolte, seconded by Troy A. Brady, the Commission approved a request from Lori B. Ulderich Harvey, Upshur County Family Resource Network Director, to place blue light bulbs in the candles displayed in the Upshur County Courthouse windows and to “plant” pinwheels in the flower beds during the month of April for Child Abuse and Neglect Awareness Month (copy included).

After discussion, on motion by Sam Nolte, seconded by Troy A. Brady, the Commission approved the appointment of Todd Payne as Upshur County Farmland Protection Board member to fill the farmer vacancy of an unexpired term ending on June 30, 2019 (copy included).

After discussion, on motion by Troy A. Brady, seconded by Sam Nolte, the Commission approved and authorized the signing of correspondence to Dr. Theodore Kress and Dr. Robert Kress, Kress Eyecare Associates; Dr. Burton Abel and Dr. Timothy Reese, requesting their consideration to join the SPECTERA Vision Network as local service providers.

After discussion, on motion by Sam Nolte, seconded by Troy A. Brady, the Commission approved the advertisement/job posting for the position of Seasonal Concession Stand Manager for the Upshur County Recreational Park for the 2017 season. Applications must be received by the close of business on March 10, 2017. This is a temporary full-time position with no benefits.

Terry Cutright reviewed the following “For Your Information” items (copies included):
1. Correspondence from Ora L. Ash, Deputy State Auditor, regarding the levy estimate (budget) 2017-2018 and enclosing a budget sequence of events.
2. Correspondence from Joseph N. Geiger, Jr., Director of the WV Archives and History, announcing the award of $10,000 to be used by the Circuit Clerk’s office to digitize chancery and law case files and requesting a response with the Commission’s intent to pursue the records project.
5. Correspondence from Chris Garrett, R.S., Upshur-Buckhannon Health Department Sanitarian, providing a monthly progress report for the Rick Carrier Property-Safe Structures and Sites Case #061214-02.
6. Correspondence from Tabatha Perry, Assistant County Administrator, to Charlie Heater regarding his property located in Banks Tax District-Tax Map 2Q Parcel 46 concerning the Commission’s decision on January 26th to provide him with a 60 day extension to bring the property into full compliance with the Ordinance

7. Upshur County Building Permits-January 2017

8. Upshur County E911 Communication Center Reports-January 2017
   - Monthly Call Summary Report
   - Monthly Department Summary Report
     Monthly and YTD Wrecker Report

9. Newsletters and/or Event Notifications
   - Buckhannon-Upshur Chamber of Commerce-February 6, 2017
   - Upshur County Administrative Annex Ribbon Cutting-February 10, 2017 from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.
   - Buckhannon Police Department Community Meeting-February 23, 2017

10. Agendas and/or Notice of Meetings
   - Lewis-Upshur Community Corrections Board-February 6, 2017
   - Upshur County Safe Structures and Sites Ordinance Enforcement Board-February 9, 2017
   - Buckhannon-Upshur Airport Authority-February 9, 2017
   - Upshur County Solid Waste Authority-February 13, 2017

11. Meeting Minutes:
   - 26th Judicial Community Corrections Board-October 17, 2016

12. Meetings:
   - 02/08/17-7:00 p.m.-Buckhannon River Watershed Association-Bd. Of Directors
   - 02/08/17-12:00 p.m.-Upshur County Senior Center Board
   - 02/08/17-3:00 p.m.-Tennerton PSD
   - 02/08/17-6:00 p.m.-Upshur County Citizens Corp-CERT
   - 02/08/17-7:00 p.m.-Warren District VFD
   - 02/08/17-7:00 p.m.-Ellamore VFD
   - 02/09/17-1:00 p.m.- Adrian PSD
   - 02/09/17-3:00 p.m.-Upshur County Conventions & Visitors Bureau–UCDA Office
   - 02/09/17-4:00 p.m.-Upshur County Safe Sites & Structures Ordinance Enforcement Bd.
   - 02/09/17-4:00 p.m.- Buckhannon Upshur Airport Authority
   - 02/09/17-7:30 p.m.-Buckhannon VFD
   - 02/13/17-12:00 p.m.-Upshur County Family Resource Network
   - 02/13/17-4:30 p.m.-Upshur County Solid Waste Authority
   - 02/13/17-6:00 p.m.-B-U Recreational Park Advisory Board
   - 02/14/17-7:30 p.m.-Adrian VFD
   - 02/15/17-7:00 a.m.-Upshur County Development Authority-Executive Board
   - 02/15/17-12:00 p.m.- Lewis-Upshur LEPC-Upshur location
   - 02/16/17-6:30 p.m.-Upshur County Farmland Protection Board-Farm Bureau Office
John Gygax, Upshur County resident, appeared before the Commission, and provided a review of his suggestions (copy included) for the implementation and/or development of recreational, athletic and cultural activities in Upshur County. Commissioners discussed the pros and cons of some of the ideas presented and expressed appreciation to Mr. Gygax for taking an initiative to create interest in the betterment of the community. Commissioners expressed that even though they agree with some of his ideas, they cited current financial conditions for the lack of ability to act on them.

Tabatha Perry discussed Safe Sites and Structures Ordinance Enforcement Board Case #041212-01 concerning property owned by Charlie Heater. Ms. Perry advised that property ownership has recently been transferred to Jessica Bennington and requested direction from the Commission on proceeding with correspondence. Commissioners advised to send correspondence as approved during the January 26 Commission Meeting to Ms. Bennington as previously sent to Mr. Heater. Ms. Perry will follow up with preparing correspondence for approval on next week’s agenda.
The Commission approved all invoices for payment (copies included)
The Commission approved all Vacation Orders.
The Commission approved the following “Settlements” (copies included):

- William R. Beale—Final Settlement Waiver
- Stanley E. Boyles—Final Settlement Waiver
- Tressie M. Depoy—First Annual Settlement
- Sammy J. Eubank—Final Settlement Waiver
- Maxine Harrington—Final Settlement
- Morris Dee Eubank—Final Settlement Waiver
- Delores Loretta Simmons—Second Annual Settlement
- Buford L. Talbott—Final Settlement Waiver
- Robert L. Wharton—Third Annual Settlement
- James Harold Wireman—Final Settlement Waiver

The Commission approved the following “Exoneration and/or Refunds” (copies included):

- Shawn or Amanda Smallridge—#4024—$401.62
- Jeffrey W. or Melodie Mills—#4025—$189.91
- Christopher T. Allen—#4026—$25.70

The Commission approved the following “Consolidation of Land Tracts” (copies included):

- Union District—Map 9H Parcel 15.4 blended with Map 9H Parcel 15.11 to make Map 9H Parcel 315.4—owners, Herald and Tonya Elza

The Commission reviewed agenda items for future meetings, received project updates and discussed administrative business items.

With no further business, on motion by Troy A. Brady, seconded by Sam Nolte, the Commission meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.