

Barbour County Commission Meeting

May 16, 2025

9:00am

DAVID STRAIT COMMISSION PRESIDENT, JEDD SCHOLA COMMISSIONER, BOB RICHARDSON COMMISSIONER, LAURIE AUSTIN COUNTY CLERK, SHANA FREY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Robert Coontz, Debra Coontz, Kim Lewis, Dylan Harper, Aaron Bostel, Natasha Kosowsky, Trevor Skidmore, Todd Lawrence, Corey Brandon, Colin McCardle, H. David Talbott

David Strait called the meeting to order at 9:03am and led the pledge.

On a motion by Jedd Schola, seconded by David Strait, meeting minutes from May 5, 2025 were approved. 3/0

Final Settlements were presented and approved on a motion by David Strait, seconded by Jedd Schola. 3/0

ROBERT BERNIER REGER, CANDACE MAE HEDGES, DIANA LYNN, MORGAN, VIRDA JEAN RICHARD, DAVID HUGH RUNION

Invoices were presented.

Deputy Barcus presented the animal control report. Barbour County Animal Friends is helping with the adoption of shelter dogs. He also mentioned an upcoming training that is being hosted in Barbour County and several surrounding counties are registered to attend.

Sheriff Carpenter provided an update regarding the cruiser quote revision and requested approval. David Strait made a motion to amend the previous motion made on March 21, 2025, which authorized the purchase of a 2024 Dodge Ram from Utilitac for \$71,064.47. Of this amount, \$67,318.82 will be funded through the Opioid Settlement funds, while the remaining \$3,745.65 will come from the Sheriff's Reserve for Capital Projects fund. Jedd Schola seconded the motion. 3/0

David Strait made a motion to amend a previously approved motion from the March 21, 2025 to approve the purchase of a 2024 Dodge Ram from Utilitac in the amount of \$71,064.47, payable from the Coal Severance fund. 3/0

A quote was presented for two Motorola radios in the amount of \$10,581.24 for the new cruisers. The radios come with a seven-year warranty. On a motion by David Strait, seconded by Bob Richardson, the quote was approved and will be paid from the Coal Severance fund. 3/0

Jedd Schola made a motion to approved the consent to hire of Daniel Boise as a full time Sheriff Deputy; Bob Richardson seconded. 3/0

Corey Brandon shared that the 2023 EMPG grant application has been submitted, and they anticipate receiving around \$29,000. They are focusing on Homeland Security grants and intend to propose a variety of projects.

May 16, 2025

Page #2

Following the passage of HB 3144, Dylan Harper introduced a 911 Tower Access policy mandating that Broadband providers must submit an application and obtain approval prior to the installation of equipment. The policy stipulates the necessity of a structural analysis, an interference assessment, and the establishment of a market value fee. The 911 Tower Access policy was approved following a motion by David Strait; seconded by Jedd Schola. 3/0

Commissioner Strait expressed thanks and appreciation to everyone involved with the transition of Barbour County's ambulance service. After months of hard work and commitment from numerous individuals, the agreement and acquisition have been successfully completed. As of May 15, 2025, ambulance services in Barbour County will be managed by the Barbour County Ambulance Authority. Commissioner Strait expressed his gratitude to the EMS providers who remained dedicated throughout the process and served as the foundation of operations. He proposed a motion to approve the 911 Rotation for EMS Coverage in alignment with the acquisition; seconded by Bob Richardson. 3/0

On a motion by David Strait, second by Jedd Schola, the application process to add EMS agencies to the 911 rotation was approved. 3/0

Colin McCardle from CEC provided an update on the splash pad project. The initial design included a pass-through system with a direct outlet to the existing pond. However, during the due diligence process, concerns arose regarding the pond's capacity and water flow. CEC's recommendation is to revise the design to be a recirculation system, causing the upfront initial cost, \$300,000, to essentially double. He has reached out to various grant programs and foundations, attempting to secure the additional funding, however at this time, the project is delayed. The commission thanked him for the information and will take it into consideration.

Commissioner Richardson expressed his desire to offer livestreaming of commission meetings; reporting constituents are deserving of transparency and the opportunity to view meetings in full context. Following discussion, Bob Richardson made a motion to move forward to research the best equipment and platform, referencing over half of WV counties already offer livestreaming; David Strait seconded. 3/0

The floor was open for public comment by order of the sign-in sheet.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for June 2, 2025 beginning at 5:00pm

On a motion by David Strait, seconded by Jedd Schola, the meeting was adjourned at 10:55am. 3/0

David W Strait, President

Barbour County
Laurie L. Austin, Clerk
Instrument 284889
08/01/2025 @ 03:46:42 PM
COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
Book 29 @ Page 8
Pages Recorded 2