

Barbour County Commission Meeting
September 8, 2025
5:00pm

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

Rhett Dusenbury, Kim Lewis, Dylan Harper, Mary M. Poling, Shirley J. Daniels, Traci L. McBee, Jody Carpenter, Cecil Holbert, Helen Zirkle, Tersea McCourt, Drew Phillips, Robert Ayersman II, Cullin Cutright, Wendy Madden, Brett Carpenter, Corey Brandon

David Strait called the meeting to order at 5:00pm and led the pledge.

Bob Richardson made a motion to approve minutes of the August 15, 2025 meeting as presented; David Strait seconded. 3/0

Exonerations were presented.

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

URIE MAXINE CARTE, JAMES CARREL WAGONER, WILLIAM HENRY WENTZ

Laurie Austin discussed the Wills of Mary Lou Cross and Betty Wright Bowlby. Wills that were presented are photocopies and will be renoticed, then presented to the County Commission for approval consideration.

Invoices were presented.

Attorney John Scott discussed the Orville Cain estate and requested a fiduciary to be appointed. Following discussion, David Strait made a motion to appoint the Sheriff to this estate; seconded by Jedd Schola. 3/0

Wendy Madden provided an update on the Barbour County Health Department. She discussed the status of services, invoices, grants and challenges. The new board held their first meeting and received training from Debbie Hissom, Center for Local Health Director, reviewed the Local Board of Health Self-Assessment and voted to advertise for a Public Health Nurse.

Sheriff Carpenter requested the consideration of hiring a Bailiff for Magistrate Court to be tabled for further review.

Cecil Holbert reported on improvements and financial impacts of Camp Barbour which were made possible due to funding from the County Commission. He requested the consideration of additional funds if available.

Robbie Ayersman discussed property developments on the Moatsville side of Tygart Lake and the challenges of extending public water to the development. A second development in the Cove Run area has expressed the same challenges.

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Chestnut Ridge PSD reported on current and upcoming projects. The PSD's main issue to address is water loss. A recent project included funding for equipment to help solve water loss issues. Phase 2 of the project is replacing water lines in the areas of Rt. 38 and Frost Run.

Cullin Cutright discussed problems that occur at Hiram and Moatsville pumpstations when there is a power outage. Approximately 80 customers are affected with water outages when the power goes out. He is recommending the purchase of two generators for each site to prevent water outages. He presented quotes for portable generators that have capacity to serve at any of the pump stations when there is a need. The Commission requested him to review State Bid and Sourcewell prices and bring back the information for consideration.

Further discussion was held with Mr. Ayersman regarding water extensions to new developments. To further discussion, it was requested that he provides the number of existing locations without city water and the number of new proposed sites.

Dave Strait made a motion to accept a \$10,000 pass through LEDA grant from Delegate Phillips on behalf of Century Volga PSD; Bob Richardson seconded. A budget revision will be processed.

Aaron Bostel provided an EMS operations update and discussed an equipment plan for the EMS Equipment Grant.

Jody Carpenter proposed moving locations within the Tygart Valley Soil Conservation building for more space, however was tabled for further due diligence.

Teresa McCourt discussed services provided by NECCO and foster care needs in Barbour and surrounding communities.

Commissioner Richardson discussed working with the Sheriff's Department to establish additional neighborhood watch programs.

Revisions to the 'Request for Grant Funds' application were discussed. On a motion by David Strait, seconded by Jedd Schola, revisions were approved to include adding questions related to Opioid funds and the requirement for applicants to provide a final report on how the funds were spent, along with copies of invoices and proof of payment. 3/0

Revisions to the Use of the Courthouse Grounds application were discussed. Commissioner Richardson requested to not allow banners be hung on the Courthouse. Following discussion, the motion died due to the lack of a second.

Commissioner Strait discussed required NARR and WVARR certification for Drug Rehab centers. Further discussion will be held to determine if an ordinance requiring this certification is necessary.

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On a motion by David Strait, seconded by Jedd Schola, reimbursement of \$250.00 was approved to Charles Nestor for the loss of poultry as a result of a dog escaping from the county shelter. 3/0

Commissioner Richardson reported that the City of Philippi was in favor if the upcoming runway lighting project. As a result, Bob Richardson made a motion to accept the Runway Light design grant; Jedd Schola seconded. 3/0

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

The next regular meeting is scheduled for September 19, 2025 beginning at 9:00am.

On a motion by David Strait, seconded by Jedd Schola, executive session was entered at 7:58pm to discuss the assignment to the Mountain Regional Drug & Violent Crime task force.

David Strait made a motion to resume regular session at 8:30pm; seconded by Jedd Schola. 3/0

On a motion by David Strait, seconded by Jedd Schola, the meeting was adjourned at 8:21pm.
3/0

David W Strait, President

Barbour County
Laurie L. Austin, Clerk
Instrument 285728
10/02/2025 @ 08:29:19 AM
COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
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