

Barbour County Commission Meeting
October 17, 2025
9:00am

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

Kim Lewis, Josh Allen, Debbie Schoonover, Scott Gillis, Kara Hardway, Kaley Grubb, Corey Brandon, Drew Phillips, Kelsey J. Gross, Caroline Davis

Jedd Schola called the meeting to order at 9:00am and led the pledge. Commissioner Strait was on a conference call with state officials and was delayed.

Bob Richardson made a motion to approve the October 6, 2025 meeting minutes as presented; Jedd Schola seconded. 2/0

Exonerations were presented.

Final Settlements were presented and approved on a motion by Jedd Schola, seconded by Bob Richardson. 2/0

SHIRLEY ANN CAMPBELL, DANIEL L. CLAYTON, EUNICE GRACE WALKER, ROBERT LEE BUTCHER, LINDA MAE BEAM

Invoices were presented.

A proclamation declaring October as Breast Cancer Awareness Month and declaring October 17, 2025 as Mammography Day was presented and signed.

A proclamation declaring October as Domestic Violence Awareness Month was presented and signed.

Barbour County Sheriff's Department had nothing to report.

The Prosecuting Attorney is seeking a Paralegal position and requesting to move his contingency funds to salaries and requesting additional funds of \$20,000. Discussion was held and will be tabled until later in the meeting.

David Strait made a motion to approve the consent to hire of Alexis Ervin to fill a vacancy in the Circuit Clerk's office; Bob Richardson seconded. 3/0

OEM/911 is preparing for cold weather and shelter preps/trainings.

The damaged recorder has been replaced. Dylan requested to change the support vendor from Sound Communications to Carolina Recording Systems who offers 24/7 365 support. On a motion by David Strait; seconded by Jedd Schola, the yearly support contract was approved in the amount of \$15,000, beginning January 1, 2026.

Jody Carpenter reported additional information on rent options with the Tygart Valley Conservation District. TVCD adjusted the rent to match \$12.00/sq. ft. Discussion was held.

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Pros and cons were weighed for each location, stating that a priority is youth development. The Extension Service has outgrown the TVCD location and it is limited for youth development programming. Jedd Schola made a motion to approve moving the Barbour County Extension Service to Battlers Knob with a lease agreement of 1,483sq. ft. for \$12.14/sq. ft. including utilities.

Caroline Davis presented information on Northern Appalachian Coal Mining Heritage Association's initiatives. Bob Richardson made a motion to contribute \$500.00, seconded by Jedd Schola. 3/0

On a motion by David Strait, seconded by Jedd Schola, a contribution of \$2,500 was approved to the Corridor H Authority. 3/0

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

Commissioner Richardson reported that GoMart has committed to opening a gas station in Belington at the previous Sheetz location and will open in late winter/ early spring.

Commissioner Strait thanked Commissioner Schola for opening the meeting while he was on a conference call representing rural counties with key community, county and state leaders. A common trend is that public safety absorbs a large part of county's budgets. Discussions will be ongoing with a goal to put together legislation that can pass.

The next regular meeting is scheduled for November 3, 2025 beginning at 5:00pm.

David Strait made a motion to enter Executive Session to discuss personnel at 10:07am; Jedd Schola seconded. 3/0

David Strait made a motion to resume Regular Session at 10:40am; seconded by Jedd Schola. 3/0

Jedd Schola made a motion to allocate additional funds to the Prosecuting Attorney's budget for a Paralegal position and process a budget revision; seconded by Bob Richardson. 3/0

On a motion by David Strait, seconded by Jedd Schola, the meeting was adjourned at 10:43am. 3/0

David W Strait, President

Barbour County
Laurie L. Austin, Clerk
Instrument 286147
11/04/2025 @ 01:30:34 PM
COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
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