

Barbour County Commission Meeting  
January 5, 2026  
5:00pm

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

Kim Lewis, Mason Jones, Owen Norris, Robbie Jones, Maddux Norris, Parker Herrod, Devin Sublett, Chandler Kelly, Nick Mayle, Leon Brown, Sean Dent, Misty Schola, Owen Hutzler, Aaron Bostel, Corey Brandon, Malachi Cross, Bentley Heldreth, Marjorie George, Ira Mayle, Wendy Madden, Jeff Madden, Rhett Dusenbury

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

The Philip Barbour Football team was recognized for their season accomplishments.

The election of Commission President was held. Bob Richardson nominated David Strait as president for the 2026 term. David Strait nominated Jedd Schola as president for the 2026 term. Discussion was held. Bob Richardson made a motion to elect David Strait as president; Jedd Schola seconded. David Strait abstained from voting and accepted the nomination. David Strait is the Barbour County Commission President for the 2026 term. 2/0

Discussion was held regarding teleconferencing. David Strait made a motion to allow Commissioners to teleconference in the event they are unavailable to attend in person; Bob Richardson seconded and passed unanimously. 3/0

On a motion by David Strait, seconded by Jedd Schola and passed unanimously, holidays, as defined by the State of West Virginia, will be observed by the Barbour County Courthouse. The Courthouse will close at 12:30pm when the observed holiday is a half-day. 3/0

Jedd Schola made a motion to not acknowledge additional holiday proclamations made by the Governor of West Virginia; David Strait seconded. A revision to the employee handbook will be drafted to reflect this change. 3/0

On a motion by David Strait; seconded by Jedd Schola, regular commission meetings will be held on the 1<sup>st</sup> Monday of each month at 5:00pm and the 3<sup>rd</sup> Friday of each month at 9:00am. Meetings are held in the County Commission Chambers at the Barbour County Courthouse. 3/0

David Strait made a motion to approve the December 19, 2025 meeting minutes as presented; Bob Richardson seconded. 3/0

No exonerations were presented.

No Final Settlements were presented.

Invoices were approved as presented.

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The following appointments were approved on a motion by David Strait, seconded by Jedd Schola. 3/0

Park & Recreation, Philippi Professional Building, Barbour/Taylor Community Corrections Board- Jedd Schola

Corridor H Authority, Barbour County 4-H, Region VI Workforce, Region VII Planning & Development Council- David Strait

Barbour County Development Authority, Philippi/Barbour Airport Authority- Bob Richardson

The yearly IT Support Contract with Global Science Technology (GST) for the period of 1/1/2026 to 12/31/2026 was tabled.

Wendy Madden provided an update for the Barbour County Health Department. A fully functioning board has been established and appointed Dr. Madden as the Health Officer. The Health Department is now in compliance with state grant programs and creating a solid foundation for core services. Rochelle King is managing Threat Prep and Karen Lewis is managing permitting in Health Space and is now compliant. She discussed the Health Department's improvement plan, preparation of a three-year plan, and focusing on strategies to improve health in areas identified in the community needs assessment plan.

County Fire Protection funds were received in the amount of \$25,854.98. The county Fire Departments prefer to split the funds equally. Jedd Schola made a motion to distribute \$8,618.32 from the County Fire Protection Funds to Junior Volunteer Fire Department, Belington Volunteer Fire Department and Philippi Volunteer Fire Department; Bob Richardson seconded. 3/0

Barbour OEM/911 reported upcoming trainings.

Aaron Bostel, Barbour County Ambulance Authority, acknowledged and gave appreciation to Joey Bolyard's assistance with fleet repairs and all three Fire Department's assistance with patients.

The America250 mural initiative was discussed. A call out to artist will be advertised and further discussions held at the next meeting.

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Board of Review and Equalization dates were determined as the following.

Friday, January 30: 4pm-5pm

Wednesday, February 4: 4pm-5pm

Monday, February 9: 4pm-5pm

Thursday, February 12: 4pm-5pm

Tuesday, February 18: 9am (Minerals)

Friday, February 20: 10am

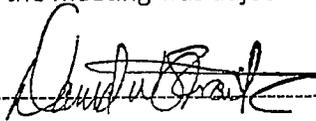
Wednesday, February 25: 4pm-5pm

A funding request was received that was referred to the Crime Victim Compensation program. No motion was made to provide commission funding to the request.

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

The next meeting is scheduled for January 16, 2026 at 9:00am.

On a motion by Bob Richardson, seconded by Jedd Schola, the meeting was adjourned at 6:19pm. 3/0



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David W Strait, President

JAN 16 2026

Barbour County  
Laurie L. Austin, Clerk  
Instrument 286886  
01/16/2026 @ 01:21:07 PM  
COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES  
Book 29 @ Page 66  
Pages Recorded 3