

Barbour County Commission Meeting
December 12, 2022
5:00pm

SUSIE CVECHKO COMMISSION PRESIDENT, JAMIE CARPENTER COMMISSIONER, DAVID STRAIT COMMISSIONER, CONNIE KAUFMAN COUNTY CLERK, SHANA FREY COUNTY ADMINISTRATOR

Dewayne Nestor, Lauren Norman, Brett Carpenter, Tom Freeman, Kim Lewis, Carrie L. Wallace, Ron Wilson, John C. (Buck) Edwards, JoLynn Powers, Sam Christie, Wesley Gray, Janna Vaught, Joseph Hughes, Carolyn Sandy, Dylan Harper, Corey Brandon, Laurie Austin, Phil Hart, Scott Corbin, Jedd Schola, Jared Forman, Larry Gore, Steve Case, Ruston Seaman

Susie Cvechko called the meeting to order at 5:00pm and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

On a motion by David Strait, seconded by Jamie Carpenter, meeting minutes from November 14, 2022 was approved. 3/0

Exonerations were presented.

Connie Kaufman presented a request from the Talbott Funeral Home to appoint an Executor to the Carolyn Gay Stalnaker estate. On a motion by Susie Cvechko, seconded by David Strait, the Sheriff is appointed to the Stalnaker estate. 3/0

On a motion by Susie Cvechko, seconded by Jamie Carpenter, nine (9) final settlements were approved. 3/0

ERNEST GABOR SEECH, AGNES MAE HEWITT, LENA A. HECKMAN, KIMBERLY LUFF WAKIM, ERIC ANDREW WEIR, BEATRICE MATLICK HARSHBERGER CHAPMAN, MARY LOUISE MURPHY, RICHARD CALVIN PHILLIPPI, CATHERINE IRENE PHILLIPPI

A budget revision was discussed regarding a contract with the Sheriff's Department and AES Security. Four months of this service was budgeted, however the contract lasted six months, an increase of \$22,500.00. The contract ended on November 30th.

The Commission presented the 2022 Emergency and Crisis Management Exemplary Community Award to Wolfe Run Mining, LLC-Leer South. Through this award, the Barbour County Commission is recognizing the work being done in Barbour County to prevent, prepare for, respond to and recover from emergencies and disasters. Their progressive planning, emergency preparedness exercises and implementation of mock drills with community collaboration is making way for the Little Hackers Creek Slurry Impoundment emergency plan to be flawless and effective. The County Commission thanked them for their commitment to our community and creating a precedence in emergency preparedness.

Corey Brandon spoke of Leer South's collaboration and partnerships with OEM. Tom Freeman reported that the implementation of such plan through the mock drill phase was the first in the Coal Industry. The mock drill consisted of sixteen agencies and sixty-six participants. They followed up with an after-action review to discuss strengths and deficiencies.

December 12, 2022

Page 2

It was noted that Wolfe Run Mining, LLC-Leer South currently has 611 employees; 213 of them are local to Barbour County and under the age of 24.

A new fund creation is required to meet SB 552 requirements for land sales. The account is to be named "Certified to the State" and will be opened at People's Bank as a clearing account. On a motion by Jamie Carpenter, seconded by David Strait, the new account was approved. 3/0

As a result of SB 280, units of government will be required to accept online payments for services and fees in March 2023. On a motion by Susie Cvechko, seconded by Jamie Carpenter, a blanket agreement with WViPay was approved. 3/0 Credit card transactions will be assessed a flat fee of 2.3% and ACH transactions will be assessed a \$1.00 flat fee.

Sheriff Carpenter requested the consent to hire Sheila Riggs as a full time Tax Deputy to fill a vacancy when Paige Shaw retires at the end of the year. Her start date will be December 19, 2022. On a motion by Susie Cvechko, seconded by David Strait, this request was approved.

Sheriff Carpenter discussed concerns within the school system and the need for a Prevention Resource Officer at each school. While he supports this idea and has a goal for it to happen, his budget cannot support the cost. The PRO at Philip Barbour High School is partially grant funded, however it does not cover all of the officer's salary, vehicle expense, or equipment; the difference is absorbed by his budget. Janna Vaught, a Barbour County educator, was in attendance and reiterated how much Prevention Resource Officers are needed. The Board of Education currently does not provide financial support toward the PRO. Further discussions will be held.

Dylan Harper presented a quote from Dave's Plumbing and Heating to repair or replace the heating / cooling unit that controls the training room and two offices. On a motion by Jamie Carpenter, seconded by David Strait, the quote was accepted to replace the unit in the amount of \$3,945.00 3/0

Joe Hughes, LynxWV provided an update to the WIN (Wireless Internet Networks) program application that was submitted for Audra State Park. Delays have occurred with award announcements due to permitting limitations causing structures, such as towers, unallowable within park property. It was suggested to LynxWV to consider a larger scoped project so he is amending the application to include three towers, instead of one and a different site outside of Audra State Park boundaries. The additional towers are proposed in the Kasson/Tacy area and Century Volga area. A timeline for award announcements is unknown at this time.

Discussions were held regarding the termination of the Shentel BEAM service in Barbour County with limited or no options available. LynxWV is navigating through options that could potentially get service to some of the affected customers. He will be connecting with OEM/911 for options on the communications tower and contact information for the DOH tower at the Fairgrounds. Further discussions will be held.

December 12, 2022

Page 3

On motion by Susie Cvechko, seconded by David Strait, the Commission accepted, approved and authorized the President to sign the U.S. Department of the Treasury Local Assistance and Tribal Consistency Funds Terms and Conditions Certification. 3/0

This program is based on federal acreage within local government units. Barbour County will be receiving a total of \$100,000, in two equal payments. The funds can be treated like general revenue funds or like PILT payments. PILT funds can be used for economic development, affordable housing, transportation infrastructure and emergency services. The funds have annual reporting requirements until they are expended. Commissioner Cvechko asked the Commissioners to consider using the funds toward economic development efforts when received.

ARP – Round 2 applicants were given the opportunity to discuss and explain their projects during informational meetings with the county commission. Initial requests totaled more funds than were available so each applicant was requested to provide a revised request. On a motion by Susie Cvechko, seconded by Jamie Carpenter, the budget revision was approved to move \$400,000 from the American Rescue Fund to General County and the following projects were approved under the ARP Round 2 application period. The revision for the budget increase due to the AES Security contract was also approved. 3/0

ARP-17: Central Barbour PSD- \$16,400.00 to upgrade their SCADA system with cellular service at the Hunter's Fork Tank and Teter Creek Lake tank.

ARP-18: Century Volga PSD- \$20,000 to purchase additional meters.

ARP-19: Belington Volunteer Fire Department- \$40,182.00 to purchase dry suits and turnout gear.

ARP-20: Heart and Hand- \$30,000.00 for the Snap Stretch program.

ARP-21: Philippi Volunteer Fire Department- \$76,000.00 for the purchase of SCBA units.

ARP-22: Town of Junior- \$47,500.00 toward the Study and Report Phase and Flow Monitoring for their developing sewer project.

ARP-24: City of Belington- \$68,382.00 to assist with the purchase of a Vacuum truck for the Sewer Department.

ARP-25: Belington Revitalization Committee- \$20,000.00 for the Belington Town Square project.

ARP-26: Adaland Mansion- \$3,900.00 for the purchase of folding and dining room chairs.

ARP-27: New Vision- \$55,000.00 for the construction of a restroom / bath facility at the Chestnut Ridge Multi-Purpose Center.

ARP-28: Junior Volunteer Fire Department- \$22,636.00 for the purchase of a paging system.

December 12, 2022

Page 4

ARP-23: Barbour County Development Authority was not approved in Round 2, however, the County Commission voted unanimously to allocate \$8,000.00 from the Coal Reallocation fund to update environmental information at the Belington Industrial Park and to obtain a marketing video of this location that prospective commercial businesses can view on the internet. The desired outcome of this project is the attraction of new business and employment to Belington and Barbour County. 3/0

ARP-16: Barbour 911 was not approved in Round 2, however the County Commission voted unanimously to allocate remaining Round 1 ARP funds in the amount of \$17,564.49 and CARES Act reimbursements in the amount of \$24,435.51, for a total of \$42,000.00 to purchase a cache of portable radios to be used during emergencies and planned events. 3/0

The Board of Assessment Appeals will reconvene on December 22, 2022 at 4:00pm.

The next regular commission meeting will be held on January 3, 2023 at 4:30pm.

On a motion by Susie Cvechko, seconded by Jamie Carpenter, the meeting was adjourned at 7:51pm.

Susie Cvechko, President

Barbour County
Laurie L. Austin, Clerk
Instrument 272433
01/04/2023 @ 02:02:32 PM
COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
Book 28 @ Page 395
Pages Recorded 4