IN THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF WOOD COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

1 COURT SQUARE, SUITE 203 PARKERSBURG, WV 26101

IN RE: MINUTES OF MEETING HELD THURSDAY, JULY 2, 2020

PRESENT: DAVID BLAIR COUCH, PRESIDENT ROBERT K. TEBAY, COMMISSIONER JAMES E. COLOMBO, COMMISSIONER

At 9:30 A.M., the County Commission of Wood County met in regular session. They signed purchase orders, invoices and other correspondence.

AGENDA AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

At 9:30 A.M., the County Commission met with Circuit Court Judge Jason Wharton. He requested the Commission make the conference room in the Judge Black Annex an alternate courtroom to hold jury trials during the coronavirus pandemic. A copy of the Order prepared is attached to these minutes and shall be made a part thereof.

At 9:51 A.M., the County Commission approved the hiring of Andrew Bell as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney.

Having no further scheduled appointments or business to attend to, the County Commission adjourned at 10:12 A.M.

ORDERS APPROVED AND ATTACHED TO THESE MINUTES Circuit Court Order APPROVED: THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF WOOD COUNTY David Blair Couch, President Robert K. Tebay, Commissione James Colombo Commissioner

Wood County Commission Meeting Held July 2, 2020

Please Print

1. Jason Wharton
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MALY COMMIS	Wood County Commission	
	Agenda	
Received and the second	07/02/2020 1 Court Square, Suite 203 Parkersburg, WV 26101	
9:30 A.M.	Discuss alternate sites for jury trials	Jason Wharton, Circuit Court Judge
	Consider Request to Hire – Andrew Bell as an Assistant Prosecuting Attorney - \$55,000.00/yr	
	Administrator's Report	Marty Seufer, County Administrator
	County Commission Reports	

Discussion, Review and Approval of expenditures and disbursements identified on Exhibit 1, hereto attached

Correspondence for this meeting will be available for public review during regular office hours in Room 205 of the Wood County Courthouse two (2) days prior to the meeting

Exhibit 1

Discussion, Review and Approval of the following items may be included during this meeting and are available for public inspection in the Office of the County Administrator two days prior to this meeting.

Budget revisions

Purchase orders and requisitions

Revisions, reimbursement requests, resolutions and correspondence for grants

Grant disbursements to other entities

Invoices for expenditures to be paid

Reimbursements for travel expenses

Bid specifications and procedures for bids previously authorized by the Commission

Monthly Hotel Occupancy Tax Collection disbursements

Disbursements for previously approved Innovative Programming Grants

Tax refunds, exonerations, impropers and consolidations

Probate items, including settlements, petitions and Fiduciary Commissioner reports

General Fund disbursements to entities

Funding requests from local organizations by written form

Payroll modification as submitted by elected officials

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IN THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF WOOD COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

The Commission FINDS that it is likely that the current courtroom facilities are of an inadequate size to conduct all stages of criminal jury trials in the Circuit Court due to the protocols imposed by the West Virginia Supreme Court related to COVID-19 and that it will be necessary for jury trials, or at a minimum portions thereof, to be held at an alternate location within the County.

West Virginia Code 51-3-7 states that "Every circuit court, county court and other court of record of any county shall be held at the courthouse of such county, except where some other place is prescribed by law or lawfully appointed. When the courthouse of a county is destroyed or is not in a condition to be occupied, such court shall hold its sessions at such places as may be appointed by order of the county court. A copy of such order or warrant shall be posted by the clerk of the county court at the front door of his office, at the courthouse door, unless the courthouse has been destroyed, and at the place so appointed."

It is therefore ORDERED that the Conference Room Facilities in the Judge Donald Black Annex are designated as additional courtroom facilities to be used by the Courts when necessary to conduct jury trials and other proceedings in which the regular courtrooms are unable to be used due to health restrictions arising from the COVID-19 pandemic.

It is further ORDERED that a copy of this order shall be posted by the clerk of the County Commission at the front door of his office, at the courthouse door, and at the Judge Donald Black Annex.

ENTER this 2nd day of July, 2020

DAVID BLAIR COUCH, President

ROBERT K. TEBAY, President pro tempore

JAMILS E. COLOMBO, Commissioner