

IN THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF WOOD COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

IN RE: MINUTES OF MEETING HELD  
MONDAY, APRIL 1, 1996

PRESENT: JEAN GRAPES, PRESIDENT  
HOLMES R. SHAVER, COMMISSIONER  
STEVEN A. GRIMM, COMMISSIONER

On this date, the County Commission met in regular session. They signed purchase orders, invoices and other correspondence.

At 9:45 A.M., the County Commission met with Herbert Helm, D.A.V Chapter 32 and Jack Ball V.F.W. 8127. Mr. Helm stated that Veterans' Affairs has taken over the use of the van (cannot hear Mr. Helm very well on tape); he would like to get a new van; they can use the old van as a trade in. Mr. Helm went over some prices he has received on new and used vans. Mr. Helm stated that the van still goes to Clarksburg. Commissioner Grimm read a letter aloud that Mr. Helm brought in. (A copy is attached to these minutes.) Commissioner Grimm stated that after they get the commitments from the other organizations, they should meet with the Commission again.

At 10:00 A.M., the County Commission met with Trudy Seita to discuss the Volunteer Action Center (Center for Community Service Agencies). A list of others in attendance is attached to these minutes. Ms. Seita stated she is the President of the Board of Directors for the Volunteer Action Center; they would like to make the Dils Center a one stop shopping center for the non-profit organizations and for the clients and citizens of Wood County that they serve; they are proposing to develop an office facility on the second floor of the Dils Center; this will bring all of the small non-profit organizations that are working independently, into an

office area where they can share ideas and resources; they will have one fax machine, one copy machine that will be big enough to handle large loads, one phone that will handle all calls, a receptionist and volunteers to help get the work done; they have been planning this for the past six months; they are just now doing the fundraising; (phase one) there are currently volunteers working on tearing down walls and putting up new walls; they need money now to buy the lumber and nails; phase one is four thousand square feet; at this point they have eight agencies that have signed leases for this space and that space will include office space, conference room, reception area, a small kitchenette and a restroom facility; phase two is an additional seven thousand square feet across the hall, they have already had people show interest in that space; this is a one time capital campaign and they are asking the Commission for \$85,000.00; this is a project that when completed will cost about \$350,000.00, part of which is donated labor and materials. Commissioner Shaver asked if the \$85,000.00 was for materials only. One of the speakers stated that it would be unless there was something that the volunteers couldn't do, then they would use some of the money for labor. Commissioner Grapes stated the Commission will look at this request; that much money is not in the County budget, but there may be some money; the hydroelectric money may be given out in a grant form, which they can apply for later; she doesn't want to give them false hope. Ms. Seita stated that the start date was yesterday and they are in the process of asking other agencies for funding. Commissioner Grimm stated that this project is needed, but he doesn't

know if they can do the whole \$85,000.00. Those in attendance stated their names and who they are representing. Ms. Seita stated that if the Commission knows money will become available, the Commission can give them an idea of what their support will be; if there is some money now and then more later, it would be helpful too. Commissioner Grapes stated that the County Commission is interested and will discuss this further. Commissioner Shaver asked the group to keep them informed on how much money will be coming in from the municipalities. GE Elfins have already committed \$3500.00 in cash and many man hours; they may try to get more support from the GE plant.

At 10:30 A.M., the County Commission met with Chief Deputy Charlie Johnson and Sheriff K.D. Merritt. Sheriff Merritt stated he had requested an extra person for the concealed weapons permits and the new reports they have to submit the State Police; there aren't many restrictions now since the law changed; applications are already backed up. Chief Johnson stated how the application process works; the Sheriff is the only one who can approve the applications; the extra person would be a clerical person to help the Sheriff with the applications. Commissioner Grimm asked if a law enforcement officer would have time to do this. Chief Johnson stated no; the individual would have to go through reports and put them into the computer for Charleston, which is very time consuming; there are many phone calls also; the County gets sixty dollars and the State gets fifteen to seventeen dollars for each permit application. Commission Shaver asked if they could set up two days a week for a part time worker to

handle these permits. Sheriff Merritt stated they could not it would be an ongoing everyday thing; they would make appointments for hearings before the Sheriff, take money, etc. Sheriff Merritt stated that the \$6,500.00 plus benefits that he requested in the budget, he feels will be there from concealed weapons money. Chief Johnson stated that the gun permits are only good for five years. Sheriff Merritt stated he plans on making a transfer a person out of the Tax Office and then the Tax Office can hire someone else; the salary of the Tax Office person is already appropriated, he is asking for \$6,500.00 more which is \$13,000.00 for someone to take this person's place in the Tax Office. Chief Johnson stated the Sheriff's secretary transcribes statements and court cases; she is swamped and won't have time to handle the added workload. Sheriff Merritt stated today is the day it is supposed to start. The Commission stated they will let them know today or at the latest, Thursday. Sheriff Merritt then wanted to discuss holiday pay; his request was for \$39,000.00 and the Commission gave him \$26,000.00; the \$26,000.00 will not cover it. Chief Johnson stated that if they take comp time, they have to get time and a half off rather than just one day (eight hours), which means they have to pay someone else overtime to cover that time. The Commission stated they would look into this matter also.


On this date, the County Commission of Wood County, upon a motion duly made, seconded and passed, did hereby AUTHORIZE Jean Grapes, in her official capacity as President and on behalf of the County Commission, to sign the letter addressed to the Federal Highway Administration, Washington, D.C. in regard to the Red Light


Running Campaign Grant. Enclosed with the letter is the Progress Report for the month of March, 1996 in regard to the aforementioned grant. All documentation pertaining to the said Red Light Running Campaign Grant is on file in the Office of the County Administrator. An Order was prepared regarding this matter.


Having no further scheduled appointments or business to attend to, the County Commission adjourned at 4:00 P.M.

Approved:

THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF WOOD COUNTY

  
 Jean Grapes, President

  
 Steven A. Grimm, Commissioner

  
 Holmes R. Shaver, Commissioner

PURCHASE ORDERS SIGNED ON APRIL 1, 1996

No.	21074	Broadwaters Motorcar	\$	15.97
	21075	Parkersburg Office Supply		180.30
	21092	Broadwaters Motorcar		6.50
	21097	Casto & Harris		144.50

WV Division of Veterans Affairs  
Wood County Court House  
1 Court Square, #403  
Parkersburg, WV 26101  
(304) 424-1952

28

13 March 1996

Dear Commander,

As per our conversation a few days ago regarding replacement of the "Wood County Veterans Van."

At present our Veterans Van operated almost daily transporting area Veterans to and from VAMC Clarksburg.

Thanks to your help we have approx. 23 Volunteer drivers from about all area post and chapters.

From March 1, 1995 to 29 Feb. 1996 the Van has transported 687 Veterans to Clarksburg for medical treatment that they may not have been able to receive otherwise.

The Van has in excess of <sup>141,929</sup>~~140,000~~ miles on it and needs to be replaced before any major problems or repairs occur.

For this reason we are asking for a donation from your post/chapter to purchase a new van. Please present this request to your membership for approval. I have ask each Wood County Veterans organization for a donation of what they can afford.

If you or any of your membership have any questions feel free to call me (424-1952). I would like to have the money committed, Van purchased, equipment added, and be on the road by mid to late April.

Once again "THANKS" for all your cooperation in this matter and I am looking forward to hearing from you soon

Marty Gilchrist  
Veterans Affairs Officer

CNGP530  
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VEHICLE ORDER CONFIRMATION

03/29/96 10:21  
Dealer: F44  
Page: 1 c

1996 ECONOLINE

Order No: 3100 Priority: 13 Order Type: 2 Price Level:  
Ord PEP: 723A Cust/Flt Name: PO Number:

	RETAIL	DLR INV		RETAIL	DLR INV
S31 E350 S W XLT	\$25115	\$21787.00	644 .SPT WHL COVERS	NC	NC
138" WHEELBASE			67B .4 WHEEL ABS	NC	NC
ZC BRIGHT WHITE			684 .HANDLING PKG	NC	NC
D CLOTH CPTS CHR			764 .CHROME BUMPERS	NC	NC
B CRYSTAL BLUE			.XLT TRIM		
723A PREF EQUIP PKG	1091	928.00	903 .PWR LKS/WINDOWS	NC	NC
17W .WINDOWS ALL ARND	NC	NC	99H 5.8L EFI V8 ENG	716	608.00
21N .15P 2-CPT CHAIR	NC	NC	44E ELEC 4-SPD AUTO	299	254.00
52N .SPD CTL/TLT WHL					
534 .TRLR TOW CLASSI	NC	NC	TOTAL BASE AND OPTIONS	28224	24589.00
551 .INSUL PKG, DLX	NC	NC	TOTAL	28224	24589.00
574 .A/C, HIGH CAP			*THIS IS NOT AN INVOICE*		
589 .ELEC AM/FM CASS			* MORE ORDER INFO NEXT PAGE *		
593 .LT/CONVEN GRP	NC	NC	F8=Next		
633 .ALTERNATOR, HVY	NC	NC	F3/F12=Veh Ord Menu		

F1=Help F2=Return to Order F3/F12=Veh Ord Menu  
F4=Submit F5=Add to Library

S006 - MORE DATA IS AVAILABLE.

IMPC33

CNGP530  
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VEHICLE ORDER CONFIRMATION

03/29/96 10:21  
Dealer: F44  
Page: 2 c

1996 ECONOLINE

Order No: 3100 Priority: 13 Order Type: 2 Price Level:  
Ord PEP: 723A Cust/Flt Name: PO Number:

	RETAIL	DLR INV		RETAIL	DLR INV
T38 .LT245/75RX16E B	NC	NC			
X33 3.54 REG AXLE	NC	NC			
153 FRT LIC BRACKET	NC	NC			
924 GLASS, PRIVACY	388	330.00			
8 US GAL GAS		12.00			
FDAF ASSESSMENT		55.00			
DEST AND DELIV	615	615.00			

TOTAL BASE AND OPTIONS 28224 24589.00  
TOTAL 28224 24589.00

THIS IS NOT AN INVOICE\*

*95-18,000*  
*19,000 miles*

=Help F2=Return to Order  
=Submit F5=Add to Library

F7=Prev  
F3/F12=Veh Ord Menu

5 - INQUIRY IS COMPLETE.

IMPC33

# Transportation Service Meets Veterans' Needs

By PENNY COPEN

There is always room for improvement.

Operating under this adage, the West Virginia Division of Veteran Affairs continue to work on services for area veterans.

For years, the Veterans Administration Hospital in Clarksburg was the closest facility which provided medical care for area veterans.

The establishment of a community-based outpatient clinic in Parkersburg provides some services close at hand. But veterans still needing the Clarksburg facilities also have transportation help.

Operating through the Division of Veteran Affairs in Wood County, the van service in Clarksburg is going strong, according to Marty Gilchrist, veterans service officer in Wood County.

"The van runs five days a week or when someone calls needing transportation," Gilchrist said. "Someone uses the service practically every day. We can have anywhere from one to 13 riders."

On the road by 8 a.m. each morning, the van makes two stops in Parkersburg before heading down Route 50 to Clarksburg.

"The Omelet Shop on 7th Street and the DAV chapter on Green Street are the two pick-up points," Gilchrist said. "Then the drivers pick up people in places like Mansboro and Ellenboro, or any place along Route 50."

With the van answering the transportation needs, volun-

teers from area American Legion posts and veteran chapters serve as drivers.

"We have about 22 volunteers who keep the van running by going when we need them," Gilchrist said.

Volunteers like Jack Boggs, Carnick Hamperian and Richard Wilson are the heart and soul of the transportation service.

Wilson, a Parkersburg resident, said he just happened into the volunteer position when he made a visit to the VA office less than one year

ago.

Wilson said he usually drives once a month, leaving at 7 a.m. and arriving home no later than 6 p.m.

"I think it's a fine thing," he said. "It helps people who can't drive or don't have the means."

During one of these routine trips, mixed communications at the hospital caused one of Hamperian's riders to miss the van.

"I had just got back to

See Van on Page 13

IN SENIOR NEWS PARKERSBURG SENTINEL/NEWS 6 March 1996



## ● Van

Continued from Page 5

Parkersburg and they asked me to go back and get this fellow," Hamperian said.

"At first I asked if I had to," he laughed. "Then I said OK, I'll go. Now he was real appreciative." Something to which the overlooked rider, Charles McIntyre of South Parkersburg, will attest.

McIntyre, an Army veteran, said he isn't allowed to drive the distance to Clarksburg because of a heart attack he suffered in December.

"I go up there a lot," McIntyre said. "Those guys, the drivers and all of them, are great. They go out of their way to help you."

And it doesn't require special cases such as Hamperian's experience for the riders to express their appreciation.

"The guys say they don't know how they'd get to Clarksburg if it weren't for us driving them," Hamperian said. "They really understand the value of the service."

Boggs, a volunteer driver for about one year, said it is something of a social event for him.

"I've made a lot of friends driving the van," Boggs said. "I get in the van and say 'howdy, folks!', and we are on our way."

Private organizations purchase vehicles, such as the van used by area veterans, and donate them to the Veterans Administration, Gilchrist said.



## Vets group lends a hand all year

Editor of The News:

This holiday season it's nice to see, read and hear of people helping people in need, with fires, accidents, flooding and adverse weather conditions. Stories are abundant of committees, organizations and others helping their fellow man.

There is a group of veterans in this area who give continuously. About 25 members strong the volunteer drivers for the Wood County Veterans Van transports veterans to

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the VA Medical Center, Clarksburg, almost daily. This group of veterans are all from the local post and chapters of American Legion, Veterans of Foreign Wars, AMVETS and Disabled American Veterans, give their time and energy helping their fellow veterans.

In the last nine months, van drivers have logged more than 21,000 accident-free miles, transported more than 500 veterans to the VA Hospital and have from 6 to 12 hours per day per trip. Their wives never know for sure when their husbands will get home for supper.

The Wood County Sheriff's Department watches over our van at night and drivers hit the road to their first pickup point by 8 a.m. with two pickup points in Parkersburg and three pickup points along Route 50.

Besides taking veterans to the Medical Center in Clarksburg, they also pickup and return veterans coming back from VAMC Pittsburgh and recently discharged patients from the Clarksburg VA Medical Center.

Our drivers put in a lot of extra time and effort on a daily basis to make things happen. So our community should be proud of the few who continually help the many in need.

Sincerely,

MARTY GILCHRIST  
Veterans Affairs Officer  
W.Va. Division of Veterans Affairs  
Parkersburg Field Office  
Wood County Courthouse

# Community

39—Help W

Now hiring full clerks, all shift McHappys to please.

OFFICE OPEI Payables/receiv. Word Pro to; Personnel burg, WV 2611

Ohio Valley applications Apply in pers a.m.-4:30 p.m.



271 EOE

Parkview Hiring applicat time registe assistants. available. Parkview t at 1600 27 9a.m. and EOE

Part-time shop local Apply with

PERSON 4420 Rr 304-428-

RN12HO Immediate motivator difference health ci nursing a new gr Please s to Arcad OH4572

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## APPLAUSE

### Donations made holiday beautiful

With the cooperation and donations of many businesses and Williamstown residents, Williamstown had beautiful snowflakes adorning Highland Avenue and decorations in Tomlinson Park!

We would like to take this opportunity to express our heartfelt "thanks" to these wonderful people who contributed to our successful projects!

Imperial Lighting in Wheeling — Jack Mendelson, was helpful from the beginning of our project!

Monongahela Power Co. has worked with us from our first meeting in September.

To get our dream accomplished we needed money, so we sent approximately 70 letters to locally owned businesses in our community and delivered flyers to households in Williamstown, explaining our project.

Generous contributions from American Legion General George Post 159, Williamstown Woman's Club, Pat McFarland, DaVinci's and the city of Williamstown enabled us to order the snowflakes. With the participation from our community, we were able to reach our goal of \$7,400!

The installation of the snowflakes was graciously handled by Albert Balsley with help from Jim Russell, Bery) Stalnaker, and Joe Rut (Williamstown Volunteer Fire Department). With the aid of a bucket truck from Tony Life, Bob Bender Jr., Gene Butler and Bob Bender Sr. were able to place the brackets and snowflakes in two days time. Building the connections was another time-consuming job and State Electric gave us a good break on these supplies. Albert Balsley and crew again spent many hours on this portion of the project. Davis Pickering donated the use of a bucket truck and John Williams and Travis Cox spent two days attaching the electrical connections. Fenton's machine shop made some corrections on three fixtures.

Williamstown National Bank maintains the "Christmas Lighting Account" and will continue to do so for future adjustments and/or additions. Barbara Lewis and Barbara

The gentlemen behind the counter unlocked the door to see if he could help, he then opened the garage back up and fixed the muffler after hours. No complaints at all. He was glad to do it.

Our area business community is thriving and growing, and I believe it is because of professionals like these. Thank you!

Sincerely,  
TWILA SCHOEPPNER  
Marietta

### V.A. van drivers are great guys

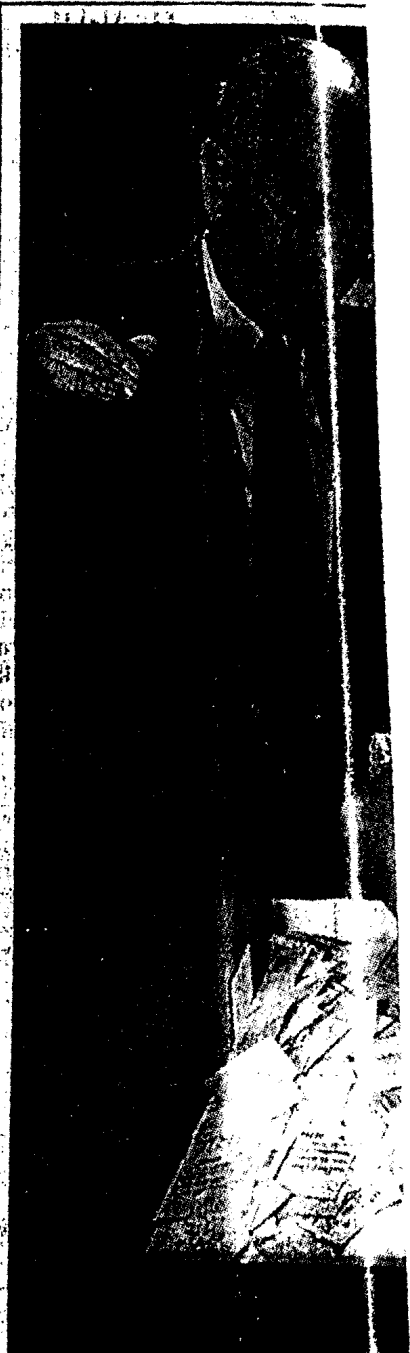
I want to thank Mr. Marty Gilchrist and Mr. Gary Myers and all of the volunteer drivers that drive the V.A. van to Veterans Hospital in Clarksburg. It is not for these great guys that take their time to help and see that all of the veterans can make it to Clarksburg on time for their doctor appointments they couldn't make it.

I personally want to thank Mr. Garnick Hamperian for helping me. He went out of his way. I was operated on in Clarksburg on Nov. 3, 1995. Mr. Hamperian was driving the van that day. I was supposed to come home on the van and there was some misunderstanding when I was to come home and the van left without me.

They called Gary, or Mr. Gilchrist, after Mr. Hamperian had gotten all the way to Parkersburg. He found out that I was released to come home and he drove all the way back to Clarksburg on that Friday and picked me up so I wouldn't have to spend the weekend in the hospital. I can't thank these dedicated gentlemen enough.

Thanks guys for a great job. We need you! God bless you all.

Sincerely,  
CHARLIE MCINTYRE  
Parkersburg



### Picking winner

Ashley Hamilton, who is Little Miss name while store manager Fred Al \$1,000 prize given recently as part of customer appreciation days. The grand prize was won by Marsha Hunt of Leon, W.Va. The grand prize was Clara Bee of Parkersburg.

## Madison School recognizes

Madison School holds its Terrific Kids award program on Dec. 15. The program is sponsored by the North Parkersburg Kiwanis Club and Rax Restaurant. Club members Woody Wiseman, Kayle Gregg and...

4/1/96

Hongku Chen  
 Paula Mocking  
 Joan Arnold  
 Tom Azinga  
 J.R. Catrill  
 Mary Ellen Mays  
 A. Sue Walker  
 HOWARD BORSI  
 JUDITH M. TUCK  
 Russell Burch  
 Jay Allright  
 Paul Allright  
 Janet Hotelling  
 Sharon Kessetling  
 Rev. David Brighton  
 David Kaufman  
 Duane Ashcraft  
 Betty Elmer  
 Kathy Morton  
 Judy Suta  
 Johnnie Kemp  
 Harleen Kadoshman

WUU - P Institutional Resear  
 Treasurer VAC  
 The Arc  
 Wood County Delegate - 10<sup>th</sup> Dist  
 VP VAC BOARD  
 VAC Board  
 VAC Board  
 COMPASS  
 FLORENCE CRITTENTON SERVICES  
 Court Appointed Special Advocates  
 VAC Board  
 Camp Noblyville  
 Horizons Center for Ind. Living  
 Big Hands / Little Hands  
 VAC Board  
 Wood Co. Family Resource Network <sup>1508 Rayen</sup> Dr. Pkwy 26101  
 Compass FRN Board Member  
 CE Elmer  
 DE Elmer  
 Pres. VAC Bd  
 Project Director VAC  
 MEURC FSP for VAC/Compass