

IN THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF WOOD COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

IN RE: MINUTES OF MEETING HELD  
MONDAY, NOVEMBER 22, 1999

PRESENT: HOLMES R. SHAVER, PRESIDENT  
ROBERT K. TEBAY, COMMISSIONER  
DAVID A. COUCH, COMMISSIONER

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

The County Commission approved Erroneous Assessment Applications in regard to Real Property for Max L. & Anita S. Wagner - City District (1998 & 1999) and Howard Hoy - Union District (1999).

At 10:00 A.M., the County Commission of Wood County opened sealed bids for a copy machine to be utilized in the Office of the Prosecuting Attorney for Wood County. Receipt of the aforementioned bids is pursuant to an ORDER appearing in Order Book 64, at Page 114 and bearing the date of November 1, 1999 at which time the Commission ORDERED that the bid be let; and further pursuant to a Legal Notice appearing in both local newspapers, The Parkersburg News and The Parkersburg Sentinel, on November 6, 1999 and on November 13, 1999 at which time sealed bids were solicited. Bids were received from the following vendors.

1. CWS  
P.O. Box 26  
Parkersburg, WV 26102  
Bid: \$11,362.00
2. Noe Office Supply  
P.O. Box 1367  
Parkersburg, WV 26102  
Bid: \$15,519.00

Upon a motion made by Robert K. Tebay, seconded by David A. Couch and made unanimous by Holmes R. Shaver, the County Commission of Wood County took the bids under advisement. An Order was prepared regarding this matter.

At 11:30 A.M., the County Commission met with Danny Cline from Casto & Harris to discuss a new election system.

The County Commission was in receipt of a letter from Carole Jones in regard to the voting system. A copy of said letter is attached to these minutes.

At 1:30 P.M., the County Commission visited the Schott Plant.

At 3:00 P.M., the County Commission met with the Regional Jail Authority.

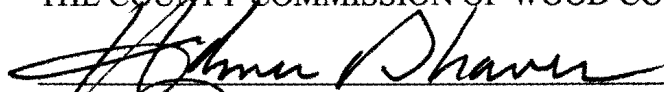
Mary R. Rader, Director of the Wood County Planning Commission presented to the County Commission of Wood County, a plat of Section 1 and 2 of Wilderness Valley Subdivision. The aforementioned Wilderness Valley Subdivision is located in Clay District and is being developed by Michael Johnson and David DeBarr. Section 2 of the aforementioned Wilderness Valley Subdivision was approved by the Wood County Planning Commission at their regular monthly meeting held on May 5, 1999; however, the lots did not have numbers on them. A revised plat was prepared bearing the date of July 9, 1999, but does not seem to have been recorded. Now, therefore, the Wood County Planning Commission is requesting approval from the County Commission of Wood County of the plat of Section 1 and 2 of Wilderness Valley Subdivision. Upon a motion made by David A. Couch, seconded by Robert K. Tebay and passed, the County Commission of Wood County did hereby AUTHORIZE Holmes R. Shaver, in his official capacity as President and on behalf of the County Commission, to give APPROVAL, by executing, the plat of Section 1 and 2 of Wilderness Valley Subdivision for recordation. An Order was prepared regarding this matter.

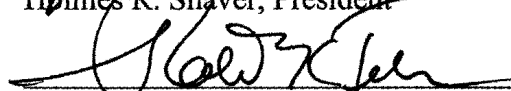
The County Commission of Wood County was in receipt of a check in the amount of five thousand two hundred fifty-one dollars and 00/100ths cents (\$5,251.00) from the State of West Virginia which represents reimbursement to the County for expenses incurred during the months of July and August, 1999 in regard to the STOP Violence Against Women Grant Number 98-VAW-005. Receipt of the aforementioned check is pursuant to an ORDER appearing in Order Book 64, at Pages 86 and 87 and bearing the date of September 16, 1999 at which time Holmes R. Shaver, in his official capacity as President and on behalf of the County Commission, was AUTHORIZED to EXECUTE the Requests For Reimbursement for the months of July and August, 1999. Documentation pertaining to the aforementioned STOP Violence Against Women 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

  
Holmes R. Shaver, President

  
Robert K. Tebay, Commissioner

  
David A. Couch, Commissioner

PURCHASE ORDERS APPROVED ON NOVEMBER 22, 1999

25172	Sam's Club	307.54
25187	Parkersburg Sentinel	115.50
25211	Assurance Business Forms	332.40
25215	S.W. Resources	947.00
25231	Tri-State Roofing	819.00
25263	Parkersburg Paint	51.27
25289	Sam's Club	197.80
25291	Wal-Mart	36.74
25303	Parkersburg Office Supply	14.00
25305	Fulton, Inc.	124.20
25311	State Electric Supply	40.65
25323	ESRI	54.79
25325	CR Malcom & Assoc.	202.79
25364	CR Malcom & Assoc.	297.50
25434	Parks Hardware & Supply	27.39
25462	Counseling Service	50.00
25482	Circuit City	1599.96
25506	Office Depot	109.88
25510	Quill Corporation	28.19
25512	Parks Hardware & Supply	16.92
25516	State Electric Supply	90.00
25534	Broadwaters Motorcar	38.17
25572	L.C. Horner Welding	25.00
25574	Wal-Mart	48.51
25578	Sherwin-Williams	512.25

ah

Nov. 22, 1999

Please  
Sign In

Nov. 29, 1999

Paul L. Binyon

MOVHS



*Carole Jones*

CLERK CIRCUIT COURT

WOOD COUNTY JUDICIAL BUILDING

# 2 GOVERNMENT SQUARE

PARKERSBURG, WV 26101-5353

TERMS OF COURT  
2ND MONDAY IN JANUARY  
2ND MONDAY IN MAY  
2ND MONDAY IN SEPTEMBER

TELEPHONE  
(304) 424-1700

November 22, 1999

TO: WOOD COUNTY COMMISSION

Since our last discussion regarding "optical scan voting" I have had the opportunity to discuss the system with several other clerks (both county and circuit), and I thought you would like me to share this information with you. I decided that it might be best to address you in writing so that you can refer back to this if you wish to.

I found that most clerks presently using the system liked it, however, I noted that I did not find a county using the "optical scan" system who had switched from the "punch card" system. All of them had instead changed from paper ballots; and I also noted that most were smaller counties, having fewer than 50 precincts. Several clerks presently using the "punch card" system expressed concern that the "optical scan" system seemed to be a step backwards from the "punch" system. Some of the concerns mentioned were the speed in counting, the machine throwing ballots out, expense, handling of ballots, etc. Some of the election personnel from the county clerk's office in one of the larger counties told me that they had gone to another county to see the "optical scan" system being used during an election, and they were not particularly impressed. They were one of the counties who indicated the feeling that this system was a step backwards. They also noted that there were many ballots being kicked out at the time they viewed the system. The clerk there also advised me that they had been seriously considering changing from the "punch card" system to the "optical scan" system prior to looking at it in use, and after seeing it they were not sure they wanted to make the change. They also felt they did not want to make a change in a presidential election year as this is a larger election than others, and it would be better to make a change in an off year election. They also thought there will be a better system in the near future.

When I was advised by election officials from two large counties that are presently using the "punch card" system that they do not plan to make a switch prior to the year 2000, I asked if there was a Y2K problem with their equipment, and was told that this was not an issue. I was advised by one individual that if the PC hooked to the counter is year 2000 ready, then there should be no problem. Of course, this is a matter that is in the realm of the county clerk, and I'm sure Jamie would have knowledge about that.

It is my understanding that Cabell County, a county presently using the "punch card" system, is making the change to the "optical scan" system for the 2000 elections. I believe they may be the first county making the switch from our type of system, rather than from paper ballots. Considering this and the fact that a presidential election is normally a rather large election, would it be wise to consider waiting till an off year election to change our system, and until we have the opportunity to find out how the system did for Cabell County? We could then get some input into cost comparison between the two systems ("punch card" and "optical scan") as to cost for printing the ballots, publishing the ballot, mailing of absentees, etc. In the meantime, if we needed

additional votomatics, etc. would there be any possibility of maybe obtaining them from another county which is changing from our type system this time?

Another matter that I have noted is that with the new system we would not have quite the cushion we have now with regard to running short on ballots in a particular precinct, since there is a distinct ballot for each.

I was told that there is only one vendor to supply our punch cards, and I thought Danny Cline indicated that there is also only one vendor to supply the paper for the ballots for the "optical scan" system. You might recall if this is correct. We might want to inquire as to the cost difference on these.

As you will recall, we previously discussed the space issue in my office. I believe that the space issue regarding absentees is not the only issue here. Sorting the ballots and preparing for packing them to go to the polls is going to be an even bigger issue. You will recall that we use all the floor space we have in the file room to set up tables to lay the ballots out on to pack, with our present system. Also, you will recall that the cans for locking the ballots in are lined across the side. We need to consider that the size of the ballots for the "optical scan" system is 17" long by 8½" wide. The size of our present ballot cards is 10 ¾" long by 3½" wide. This is a considerable difference. We will not only have much bigger cans, but we will also have more precincts, which will mean more cans. Also, you can imagine how much more table space it will require to lay the ballots out on, looking at the increase in size. I simply cannot see how we can manage to lay these ballots and cans out for packing anywhere in my office.

Mary provided me with a photograph of the cabinet that Harrison County had built for storage of absentee ballots. I have talked to them, and was advised that there are two such cabinets, one for Democratic party ballots and one for Republican party ballots. The cabinets measure 6 ft. 3" wide and 15½" deep. As you may recall, we had a similar cabinet built several years ago, and it measures 5 ft. wide by 11½" deep. It is as wide as we can go to be able to maneuver it through the doors with the angles we have to work around.

One last item that was mentioned as a concern by some clerks and candidates, was the fact that with the "optical scan" system the candidates are listed stacked by party with one under the other, as opposed to side by side. This has been a topic of discussion many times, usually by candidates or party representatives.

I hope the information I've shared herein will be helpful to you. Please feel free to call on me, if you have any questions or concerns I may not have addressed. Also, please keep me informed of meetings and considerations regarding elections.

Respectfully submitted,



Carole Jones, Clerk  
Circuit Court of Wood County

Hon. Jamie Six, Clerk  
Wood County Commission