

Monroe Commission Holds February Meeting

The Monroe County Commission met in regular session on Wednesday, February 1st at the Courthouse. Commission President Shane Ashley called the meeting to order followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and prayer.

The County Clerk reported that his staff has mailed over 800 letters to the registered voters in Gap Mills advising of the voting precinct relocation. The County Commission recently entered an order changing the location of the Gap Mills voting precinct from the Gap Mills Community Center to the Union Volunteer Fire Department Substation building in Gap Mills. This change will be effective with the May 8, 2012 Primary Election.

The County Commission approved a Change of Scope request for the Greenville Ruritan Club for a Governor's Community Participation grant they are receiving.

The Commission renewed their Cable Franchise Agreement with Suddenlink, and reappointed Tom Martin and Alma Griffith to the Gap Mills Public Service District and reviewed the monthly meeting minutes of the GMPSD.

Circuit Clerk Leta Gullette-Comer and County Clerk Donald J. Evans, advised the County Commission that each of their offices has been awarded a grant from the WV Records Management and Preservation Grant Program. Ms. Gullette-Comer said she was awarded \$2,151.00 and planned to use the funds to purchase a document scanning system for her office. Evans said his grant was for \$5,400.00 and these funds will be used to purchase new binders for the twelve (12) oldest deed books located in the record room. Evans said the pages in these books would be placed in archival sleeves to help with preservation. Gullette-Comer and Evans prepared their grant applications.

The County Commission prioritized projects for funding consideration from the Small Cities Block Grant Program for the upcoming year. The projects in priority order are; Red Sulphur Water Project, Red Sulphur Multi Extension Project, M-Rock Expansion, Broadband, Gap Mills / Moncove Lake Water System, Law Enforcement, Emergency Services, Tourism Development, Sinks Grove Water Project, Courthouse Improvements and Animal Control.

Commissioners confirmed the dates of the remaining Board of Equalization hearings. The dates are as follows; February 8th, 10th, and 16th. All meetings will be held in the Commission's meeting room at the Courthouse beginning at 9:00 am. Please call 772-3096 if you need to meet with the Board of Equalization.

Bruce Power, 911 Director, met with the County Commission providing an update of the activities of the 911 Center and the Office of Emergency Services. Mr. Power said he has been working with Peterstown Volunteer Fire & Rescue to

establish a back up 911 Center at the Peterstown Fire & Rescue building. Power said in the event of an emergency and the 911 Center had to be evacuated, he and his staff could operate from the Peterstown site. He presented the monthly wrecker response report to the County Commission. Neel's received seven calls, Dunbar 2, Offenberger 2 and Galford's received one.

The County Commission approved bid specifications, as prepared by Commissioner Clyde Gum, Jr. for the replacement of the Courthouse roof. These specifications can be picked up from the County Clerk's Office or by calling 772-3096. Specifications can also be found on the county's website at www.monroecountywv.net. The deadline to submit a bid is March 5, 2012 by 4:00 pm. The West Virginia Courthouse Facilities Improvement Authority recently awarded the county a grant to replace the roof.

Planning Commission members Rod Graves and Rocky Parson met with the County Commission and provided them with an update of the Planning Commission activities.

The County Commission talked about the community service projects submitted for the Boy Scout Community Service Project. The next Boy Scout Community Service meeting is scheduled for February 9, 2012 at 7:00 pm at the Peterstown United Methodist Church Fellowship Hall. Everyone is invited to attend and get involved in this most worthwhile project.

The Commission approved six final estate settlements and one exoneration.

The County Commission will meet again on in regular session on March 7, 2012.