

COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, APRIL 8, 2026

PRESENT: THOMAS BLOOM, President
SEAN SIKORA, Member
JEFFREY ARNETT, Member

1. Moment of Silent Meditation and Pledge to the Flag

2. Call to Order

The Monongalia County Commission met in regular session on the 8th day of April 2026 beginning at 10:03 A.M. in the Monongalia County Commission Meeting Room, at the Monongalia County Courthouse. Agendas attached. A video copy of the work session will be available upon written request to the County Commission at cost.

3. Consent and Approval – (see exhibit)

A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried for the Commission to give their consent and approval to the following agenda items:

- a) Erroneous Assessments (attached)
- b) Minutes – April 1, 2026
- c) Pay Vouchers
- d) Miscellaneous Bonds, etc.
- e) Budget Revisions
- f) Vacancies for Boards and Authorities
- g) Fiduciary Orders
 - i) The agenda item for the Estate of Carl James Smith has been moved to next week's regularly scheduled meeting.

4. Introduction of new employees/personnel changes

a) A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve revising the start date of Adrian Paul Ellinwood as a full-time Court Security Officer for the Monongalia County Sheriff's Department from May 1, 2026 to April 16, 2026 due to his waving health insurance coverage.

b) A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve the employment of Donna M. Lonergan as a part-time seasonal Park Maintenance/Groundskeeper for Camp Muffly Park at a rate of \$13.00 per hour effective April 15, 2026.

5. Comments from the Public

Olivia Miller, Westover – Running for West Virginia House of Delegates District 80, West Virginia University (WVU) graduate, Interim Executive Director of the West Virginia Highlands Conservancy working with state legislators for the past three years on environmental policy issues, understands the different needs of the communities in District 80 (Westover, Suncrest, Star City, and Granville), concerned about infrastructure and school funding, thanked the Commission for passing resolution opposing MidAtlantic Resiliency Link (MARL) transmission line, will work with the Commission to oppose the project, thanked the Commission for their time and their work for the county.

6. Presentation – Visit Mountaineer Country Convention and Visitor's Bureau

Susan Riddle, President & CEO of Visit Mountaineer Country Convention and Visitor's Bureau – Provided Annual Report which has been filed with the state, actively participated in regional and state initiatives (Leave No Trace, Mountaineer Gravel, Mountaineer Trail Network, Civil War Trails, International Visitor Initiatives, and more), thanked partners (municipal, county, and community), data show Mountaineer Country ranked number one in West Virginia for overnight stays and day trips, Tourism Advancement Fund allows greater event recruitment, strategic goal is to make the region a vacation destination, Tourism Summit will be on May 5, 2026, dark sky cabins at Chestnut Ridge Park received international attention, estimates at least \$8.00 return for every \$1.00 spent on tourism events, thanked her staff for their work and Commissioner Bloom for serving on board.

7. Grants – None

8. Correspondence

a) Notification from Vandalia Health regarding the appointment of Krystal Atkinson, Chief Administrative Officer of Vandalia Health Mon Medical Center, to fill the vacancy to the Board of Directors of Monongalia Emergency Medical Services, Inc.

b) Funding request from the Monongalia County Ballpark for the Mon County Baseball Classic.

9. Unfinished Business – None

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10. New Business

a) A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve the Emergency Absentee Voting Policy regarding the 2026 Primary Election.

b) A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve Requisition No. 118 for the University Town Centre Excise Tax District Administrative Expense Fund in the amount of \$3,856.25.

c) A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve Requisition No. 35 for the University Town Centre Series 2023 A Property Tax District Administrative Expense Fund in the amount of \$815.28.

d) A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve revised Requisition No. 43 for the Series 2021 B Harmony Grove Phase 1 Project Fund in the amount of \$34,500.00.

11. Reports from Elected Officials and Department Supervisors – None

12. Reports from County Commissioners

Commissioner Arnett – Thanked Susan Riddle for providing update, attended Camp Muffly Board meeting, campaign events (wished good luck to all the candidates), Morgantown Community Resources (MCR) Board meeting, job interviews for Morgantown Monongalia Metropolitan Planning Organization (MMMPO) Executive Director.

Commissioner Sikora – Meeting with Russ Rogerson (Morgantown Area Partnership) and Sarah Cranston (Morgantown Library) about Digital Navigator position, Good Friday and Easter weekend, monthly breakfast, bond counsel call, fleet management call, HR meeting, call with Comcast broadband team and local broadband team, thanked Susan Riddle for providing update.

Commissioner Bloom – Thanked Susan Riddle for her work, Banana Ball coming to Granville for two days, attended Chestnut Ridge Park Board meeting (will have a Fishing Rodeo this Saturday), participated in his family's 141st year of Seder gatherings for Passover, hoped everyone had a great Easter and Happy Pesach.

Commissioner Arnett (continued) – Camp Muffly had over 100 kids for Easter Egg hunt, Mason-Dixon Park had Easter Egg hunt with over 1,000 eggs, thanked Matt Marino for playing the Easter Bunny at both events.

13. Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Sikora and unanimously carried to adjourn at 10:45 A.M.

THOMAS C. BLOOM
President

JEFFREY L. ARNETT
Member

SEAN P. SIKORA
Member

Approved on: