

COUNTY COMMISSION MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, MAY 6, 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 6th day of May 2026 beginning at 10:01 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 – None
- b) Minutes – April 29, 2026
- c) Pay Vouchers
- d) Miscellaneous Bonds, etc.
- e) Budget Revisions
 - i) In-House – General Fund
 - (1) Ag Agent (412)
 - (2) Law Enforcement (700)
 - (3) Emergency Management (711)

f) Vacancies for Boards and Authorities

g) Fiduciary Orders

i) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Sikora and unanimously carried to leave the Estate of Anitalee Marie Garletts open until the issue involving the cemetery plot has been resolved. Joy Lynn Garletts, Petitioner in the Estate of Anitalee Marie Garletts, spoke about her history with Daniel James Garletts, Administrator for the Estate of Anitalee Marie Garletts, and asked that all communication be done through mail. The Commission stated a letter will be sent to Daniel James Garletts directing him to send the required documents needing signed to the Petitioner via certified mail.

4. Introduction of new employees/personnel changes

a) A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve the employment of Robert A. Maddy as a full-time Sexual Assault Kit Initiative (SAKI) Area 1 Investigator for the Monongalia County Prosecuting Attorney's Office at a rate of \$80,000.00 per year effective May 16, 2026.

b) A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Sikora and unanimously carried to approve the employment of the following part-time seasonal employees for Camp Muffly Park and a rate of \$12.00 per hour effective May 6, 2026:

- i) Ethan John Terneus, Lifeguard
- ii) Elisabeth Mae Allen, Lifeguard
- iii) Lillian Marie Jordan, Lifeguard
- iv) Abigail F. Poling, Lifeguard
- v) Autumn J. Duke-George, Concession Stand Employee
- vi) Brooke Allison Meadows, Lifeguard
- vii) Tessa Marie Meadows, Lifeguard
- viii) Tori Abigail Wolfe, Lifeguard
- ix) Willow Wilson, Lifeguard

5. Comments from the Public

Taryn Moser, 193 Paradise Circle – The intersection of Goshen Road and US 119 (Grafton Road) where Ridgedale Elementary School is located is very dangerous, numerous accidents on the road, would like to see more safety measures including speed enforcement, additional developments are increasing the danger. Speaking as West Virginia Global Information Systems (GIS) Coordinator, invited the Commissioners to a GIS Conference at the Erikson Alumni Center from June 1 to June 3, 2026.

Judy Delagarza, 6003 Woodland Bluff Road, Morgantown, 26508 – MidAtlantic Resiliency Link (MARL) Transmission Line update, deadline to register as Intervenor with West Virginia Public Service Commission (PCS) is June 1, 2026, West Virginians Against Transmission Line Injustice (WATI) holding final workshops before deadline, West Virginia Public Service Commission (PSC) attorneys have been asking difficult questions of NextEra Energy, local hearings scheduled for mid-June.

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6. Proclamation – Nurses Week

Proclamation read by Lya Stroupe, in attendance were Krystal Atkinson and Christine Daniels. A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to proclaim the week of May 6 to May 12, 2026 as Nurses Week in Monongalia County.

7. Receipt and review of offers in response to Notice of Property Sale issues by the Monongalia County Commission on April 22, 2026

A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to accept the following submittal by West Virginia University Hospitals, Inc., being the only submittal received by the due date and time at 10:00 A.M. on May 6, 2026, and within the parameters released on April 22, 2026 (10% down in earnest, with an offer of at least 75% of the appraised value, with an offer of at least 6 million dollars). A representative from the hospital thanked the Commissioners for their partnership and stated the property is in a convenient location to the hospital. The Commissioners thanked the hospital staff for their cooperation.

8. Grants

A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve the grant application and supporting documents for the Appalachia High Intensity Drug Trafficking Areas Subaward Agreement (\$38,000.00).

9. Correspondence

a) Receipt of the 2025 Annual Report for the Monongalia County Deputy Sheriff's Civil Service Commission.

10. Unfinished Business – None

11. New Business

a) A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to reappoint Marcus Estlack and Barry Palay to the Monongalia County Development Authority.

b) A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve funding up to \$30,000.00 from the Monongalia County Ballpark Events Fund for support of the 2026 NCAA Regional Baseball Tournament at the Monongalia County Ballpark.

c) A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve and sign the Software License Agreement renewal between the Monongalia County Commission and Amilia Technologies for the SmartRec eCommerce platform for the Monongalia County Parks & Recreation Department. A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to amend the prior action to include delegating the County Administrator the authority to sign the agreement.

d) A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve Requisition No. 37 for the University Town Centre Series 2023 A Property Tax District Administrative Expense Fund in the amount of \$6,106.25.

e) A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve Requisition No. 119 for the University Town Centre Excise Tax District Administrative Expense Fund in the amount of \$9,212.50.

f) A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve a Letter of Support for the Rural Access Mobility Program (RAMP) for the Appalachian Regional Commission.

g) A motion was made by Commissioner Sikora, seconded by Commissioner Arnett and unanimously carried to approve a Letter of Support to the West Virginia State Fire Commission on behalf of the Town of Star City.

12. Reports from Elected Officials and Department Supervisors – None

13. Reports from County Commissioners

Commissioner Arnett – Comments on Proclamation for Nurses Week (late mother-in-law was a nurse, their work is critical to patients and families, proud to sign the Proclamation), attended mural unveiling on Wall Street (brightened up the alley), glad the Commission is moving forward on the sale of the Monongalia Health Department Property, addressed Taryn Moser's comments about intersection (Commission has no control because it is a state road, but can ask for additional lights and more patrols by the Monongalia County Sheriff's Department).

Commissioner Sikora – Call with a developer, breakfast with Joe Statler, Mother's Day weekend coming up (encouraged people to show appreciation for their mothers).

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13. Reports from County Commissioners (Continued)

Commissioner Bloom – Addressed Taryn Moser’s comments about intersection (Ridgedale school intersection concerns have come up numerous times in the past, Monongalia County Sheriff sends patrols but people speed back up once they are gone, West Virginia Division of Highways (DOH) vetoed request for traffic lights and request for lights that only operated when school lets out, will reach back out again), accepted the Insights to Impact Award on behalf of the Commission from the Mountaineer Country Convention and Visitors Bureau (CVB) for progressive programs and supporting tourism, thanked Ben Conley for writing a Dominion Post article about jail bill increase, West Virginia State Senator Mike Oliverio is working to set up a Zoom meeting with the Monongalia County Commission, the Kanawha County Commission, and state leaders to discuss the jail bill increase.

14. Adjournment

A motion was made by Commissioner Arnett, seconded by Commissioner Sikora and unanimously carried to adjourn at 10:43 A.M.

THOMAS C. BLOOM
President

JEFFREY L. ARNETT
Member

SEAN P. SIKORA
Member

Approved on:

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