FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION - ALL 2026 MINUTES (CLICK TO RETURN TO THE TOP)

Meeting Dates – *Click a date to jump to those minutes*

All Minutes 2026

January 7, 2026
January 21, 2026
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April 1, 2026
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May 13, 2026
May 18, 2026 – Primary Election Canvass
May 22, 2026
May 26, 2026 – Special
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FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION - ALL 2026 MINUTES (CLICK TO RETURN TO THE TOP)

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
January 7, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), GREG FERNETT
PRESENT VIA ZOOM: ALLISON R. TAYLOR

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 7th day of January, 2026.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

County Clerk Michelle Holly leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Organizational Order – Commissioner Fernett motions to appoint John Brenemen as President of the Fayette County Commission for 2026. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Fernett motions to appoint Ruth Lanier as Purchasing Agent with authority to approve expenditures up to $15,000, excluding law enforcement expenditures, and to designate Allison Taylor as back-up and to approve law enforcement expenditures as needed. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions to ratify the biweekly meeting schedule, every other Wednesday at 9:00 a.m. with exceptions. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds – Assessor Tara Tyree presents the exonerations: Dean E. Gamble, Sr., $11.38; Joshua W. & Cheyenne S. Worix, $9.74; Anne M. & Kevin B. Campbell, $530.00; Cara L. Buckner, $215.58; Eltina Crystal Arrington, $69.82; Huston Harden, $79.00; Brenda D. Contreas, $71.12; Melanie C. Drennen, $1,194.46; Grant M. Montgomery, II, $475.98 and $751.38. Commissioner Fernett motions to approve the exonerations as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Fernett motions to approve a refund in the amount of $472.98. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Fernett motions to approve three Orders to Combine as presented. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices – The Commission reviews vouchers and invoices. Discussion is held regarding charges submitted by the

Smithers Volunteer Fire Department, including security camera installation and flower purchases incurred after the department was instructed to cease operations. The Commission determines these expenses are not eligible for payment. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve vouchers and invoices as presented, excluding the Smithers Volunteer Fire Department security camera charges and flower purchases. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Payroll for January 9 – Commissioner Fernett motions to approve payroll for January 9, 2026. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meeting Minutes – Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the October and November 2025 meeting minutes. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Estate Settlements – Commissioner Taylor motions to approve estate settlements as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Fiduciary Commissioner Order Recommendation – Estate of Drema Johns – The Commission discusses the lack of action by the previously-appointed fiduciary commissioner and the existence of related litigation pending in Circuit Court. After discussion with legal counsel, Commissioner Taylor motions to remove the fiduciary commissioner, direct the refund of the previously paid fiduciary fee, refer the matter to Circuit Court, and direct the Prosecuting Attorney to prepare the appropriate order. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Region IV Trail Update and Request for Funding Reallocation – The Commission receives an update regarding the Region IV trail project and discusses reallocation of previously-approved ARPA funds. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the funding reallocation consistent with the original trail development purpose. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Hearing Regarding Odessie Ruth Long Estate – Commissioner Taylor motions to continue the hearing regarding the Odessie Ruth Long Estate to January 21, 2026, at 9:30 a.m., with Zoom participation permitted due to one of the parties' counsel not being present. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Pax Creek Flooding Discussion and Grant Application – With input from Zoning Officer Angela Gerald, the Commission discusses flooding concerns along Pax Creek and a proposed Natural

Resources Conservation Service planning grant. This is merely an application for the grant. Once the application is accepted, there will be an MOU which will include a match, and at that point, the Commission can make a decision as to whether the County can afford the match. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve submission of the NRCS Planning Assistance Grant application. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

In addition to discussion of flooding concerns and the proposed Natural Resources Conservation Service planning grant, the Commission discusses coal company rights-of-way in the Pax Creek area and how existing easements and property ownership may affect potential mitigation work. Commissioners discuss coordination with the coal company, limitations imposed by existing rights-of-way, and the importance of ensuring any future planning or construction activities comply with legal access requirements. The discussion includes the need for continued communication among the County, state agencies, and private property holders as planning progresses. No formal action is taken.

New River Conservancy – The Commission discusses a request from the New River Conservancy, presented by individuals attending via Zoom, regarding permission to conduct an assessment related to property within Fayette County. Discussion includes coordination with the United States Department of Agriculture, existing property restrictions, and the scope of activities permitted under applicable agreements. Commissioners discuss the limited nature of the request, noting that the assessment would not involve construction or removal activities and that any future action would require additional approval. Commissioner Fernett motions to approve permission for the New River Conservancy to conduct the requested assessment. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

New River Gorge Regional Development Authority (NRGRDA) – The Commission engages in extensive discussion regarding the New River Gorge Regional Development Authority, including its current role, governance structure, regional coordination responsibilities, and the County's ongoing relationship with the Authority. Commissioners discuss the importance of regional economic development efforts, transparency, communication, and ensuring Fayette County's interests are adequately represented. The discussion includes concerns regarding clarity of authority functions, alignment with County priorities, and the need for continued dialogue moving forward. No formal action is taken.

Decision & Discussion: Ruth Lanier – Exhibit A –

Sheriff's Department – The Commission recognizes newly-certified deputies Tanya Berry and Thomas Walker for their achievements at the law enforcement academy. Commissioner Fernett motions to approve a Sheriff's Department personnel action nunc pro tunc, effective December 22, 2025. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the purchase of a replacement cruiser utilizing insurance reimbursement and law enforcement levy funds. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions to accept an American Electric Power Foundation Grant in the amount of $35,000. No match is required. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Animal Shelter Van – The Commission discusses the need for a van for the Fayette County Animal Shelter. After discussion, Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve a shelter van purchase. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Mileage Rate for 2026 – Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the 2026 mileage reimbursement rate at 72.5 cents per mile as established by the Internal Revenue Service. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Board of Equalization and Review: Legal Notices – Commissioner Fernett motions to authorize the Assessor and Prosecuting Attorney to proceed with required legal notices for the Board of Equalization and Review. The dates are January 30th, February 5th, February 11th, and February 18th. Commissioner Brenemen. seconds. Unanimous decision.

PSD Board Appointments – Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve Public Service District board appointments for Gauley River PSD (Steven Estep) and White Oak PSD (Lawrence K. Bledsoe) as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Letter Congratulating MTHS Student for All-State Football Captain Position – Commissioner Fernett motions to approve a congratulatory letter recognizing a Midland Trail High School student for selection as an All-State Football Captain. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Support Letter – Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project – Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve a letter of support for the Mountain Valley Pipeline Boost Project as presented, nunc pro tunc. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Hazard Mitigation Leases / FEMA and USDA Properties – The Commission discusses leases related to hazard mitigation properties, including the distinction between FEMA and USDA-funded properties and the need for accurate property classification. Commissioner Fernett motions to approve the leases as presented for the current term and direct staff to compile a comprehensive property database and review lease compliance for future action. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Right-of-Way Abandonment Request: Edward Scott – Following a recommendation by Prosecuting Attorney Anthony Ciliberti, Commissioner Brenemen motions to waive the County's interest in the abandoned right-of-way and authorize full ownership to be awarded to Edward Scott. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

WV Corporation Deductible Payment for Urban Renewal Authority – Commissioner Brenemen motions to table this item until the January 21, 2026, meeting. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commission Board Seats – The Commission considers appointments to commission board seats. Commissioner Taylor motions to appoint John Brenemen to the Local Redevelopment Authority (LRA) board. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision. Commissioner Taylor motions to appoint Greg Fernett to the Farmland Protection Board. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. The remainder of the board appointments remain unchanged. Unanimous decision.

Global Science and Technology Contract for Services – Commissioner Fernett motions to table the Global Science and Technology services contract until the January 21, 2026, meeting. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Executive Session – The Commission is in executive session from 11:24 a.m. to 12:39 p.m. to discuss matters involving the Fiduciary Commissioner Order for the Estate of Drema Johns and the GST contract. No decisions are made.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION - ALL 2026 MINUTES (CLICK TO RETURN TO THE TOP)

The meeting adjourns at approximately 12:40 p.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
January 21, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), GREG FERNETT
PRESENT VIA ZOOM: ALLISON R. TAYLOR

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 21st day of January, 2026.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Prosecuting Attorney Anthony Ciliberti leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds - Assessor Tara Tyree presents multiple tax exonerations, orders to divide or segregate land, and a refund exoneration. No objections or questions are raised regarding the amounts or parcels presented. Commissioner Fernett motions to approve the exonerations as presented: Jonathan R. & Aletheia G. Coleman, $487.56; William Joe Farris, $41.88 and $40.34; Gary W. & Glenna J. Legg, $108.58. $106.00, $102.68, $102.68 and $102.68. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Fernett motions to approve the order to divide or segregate land as presented. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the refund exoneration as presented. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices - The Commission reviews submitted vouchers and invoices. Commissioner Taylor identifies several items for discussion, including grocery purchases submitted by a volunteer fire department, a sales tax charge that is not reimbursable under County policy, and a 2.2-hour time entry on an invoice submitted by Josh Davis. Commissioner Taylor explains that while most of Mr. Davis's invoice reflects legitimate county fire coordination work, she has concerns that the 2.2 hours billed for phone conversations may reflect fire association duties rather than county responsibilities.

Commissioner Taylor states she would like additional clarification regarding the purpose of those calls before authorizing payment and notes that Mr. Davis is currently unavailable due to training. Commissioner Fernett expresses concern that the County lacks a formal fire coordinator and that Mr. Davis has been serving as a liaison between the Commission, fire departments, and associations. Discussion follows regarding distinctions between county coordination duties and association activities, the importance of fiscal oversight, and the need for additional information prior to payment.
After further discussion with counsel in executive session, Commissioner Taylor motions to approve vouchers and invoices, excluding: $232.28 in grocery purchases; $2.52 in sales tax; and any non-reimbursable items previously identified. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meeting Minutes – The draft of the December 10, 2025, minutes has been completed and is being edited. The draft of January 7, 2026, minutes are currently in progress. No action is taken.

Estate Settlements - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve estate settlements as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Payroll for January 23, 2026 - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve payroll for January 23, 2026. Commissioner Fernett seconds.
Unanimous decision.

Decision & Discussion – Ruth Lanier – Exhibit A

Budget Memo for Elected Officials - The Commission reviews a budget memo prepared for distribution to elected officials outlining upcoming budget considerations and timelines. Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the budget memo and authorize stamping. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

WV Division of Emergency Management Grant Adjustment - A $2 reduction to an existing emergency management grant is presented. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the grant adjustment. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commission Priority List Review - The Commission discusses the need to review and update its economic development priority list. Commissioners note that some previously identified projects may have been funded through other

sources, while others remain unfunded. Staff is asked to locate prior submissions for review. Commissioner Taylor texts NRGRDA Executive Director Jina Belcher, asking her to provide input. Commissioner Brenemen motions to table the priority list review until January 30, 2026. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Congressionally Directed Spending Requests - Commissioners discuss potential congressionally-directed spending requests and the importance of aligning any future submissions with updated County priorities. Commissioner Brenemen motions to table this item until January 30, 2026. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Process to Start Animal Shelter Advisory Board - The Commission discusses the possible formation of an Animal Shelter Advisory Board, including governance structure, advisory scope, and coordination with shelter operations. After discussion in executive session with legal counsel, Commissioner Taylor motions to approve a resolution establishing an entity to support and advise the Fayette County Animal Shelter, noting the importance of continued efforts to improve animal welfare outcomes. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Criteria for Fayette County Spay and Neuter Program - The Commission discusses potential criteria for a spay and neuter program, including eligibility requirements, funding sources, and administrative oversight. After discussion in executive session with legal counsel, Commissioner Taylor motions to postpone consideration of spay and neuter program criteria until the January 30, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

GST Contract for Computer Services - The Commission discusses the Global Science and Technology contract for computer services and raises questions regarding scope, cost, and legal review. After discussion in executive session with legal counsel, Commissioner Taylor motions to submit a counteroffer to Global Science and Technology to extend the computer services contract for six months only, from January 1, 2026 through June 30, 2026, contingent upon GST's acceptance. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Potential Litigation Involving James W. Keenan - The Commission discusses potential litigation involving James W. Keenan and receives advice of counsel regarding legal

considerations in executive session. Commissioner Taylor motions to direct the Prosecuting Attorney to send a letter to James W. Keenan advising that the statute of limitations has expired; any proposed lawsuit is considered frivolous; and the County does not intend to negotiate or settle. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Odessie Ruth Long Estate: Fiduciary Commissioner Order Regarding Claims Against the Estate - The Commission conducts a public hearing regarding the Estate of Odessie Ruth Long. Legal counsel summarizes the Fiduciary Commissioner's order issued by Gavin Ward following a prior hearing. Two claims are addressed: a reimbursement claim filed by Brenda K. Burnham in the amount of $18,670.49 and a claim filed by Stephen D. Long in the amount of $319,814 alleging theft of estate property.

Legal counsel explains that the Fiduciary Commissioner denied both claims, noting that allegations of theft are not properly asserted as creditor claims against the estate and that reimbursement claims lacked sufficient legal basis under the order.

Multiple heirs appear in person and via Zoom. Testimony includes:

- Disagreement regarding whether expenses were incurred before or after the decedent's death;
- Allegations and denials regarding removal of personal property from the residence;
- Discussion of property maintenance, utility payments, and security measures;
- Confirmation that alleged theft concerns were referred to the Fayette County Sheriff's Department for investigation.

Commissioners ask clarifying questions regarding the timing of expenses, law enforcement involvement, when the real estate was listed for sale, the amount Stephen Long spent on improvements and the scope of the Fiduciary Commissioner's authority. Commissioner Taylor motions to adopt the Fiduciary Commissioner's order denying both claims against the estate. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Fiduciary Commissioner Recommendation: Executor Appointment - The Commission then considers the Fiduciary Commissioner's recommendation to remove Stephen D. Long as executor and appoint the Sheriff of Fayette County. Heirs

present sharply differing views, with some expressing support for Mr. Long based on repairs made to the property and the pending sale, and others expressing concerns regarding communication, delays, neutrality, and family conflict. The Commission determines that legal advice is necessary before taking action. The Commission enters executive session to receive legal advice regarding executor appointment. After discussion with legal counsel, the Commission considers the Fiduciary Commissioner's recommendation to remove Stephen D. Long as executor. Commissioner Taylor motions to deny the Fiduciary Commissioner's recommendation and retain Stephen D. Long as executor of the Estate of Odessie Ruth Long, citing that personal property issues have been resolved; the real estate is the only thing remaining in the estate and is under contract at market value; closing is scheduled for January 30, 2026; therefore retaining the current executor is in the best interest of the estate at this time. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Executive Session No. 1 - The Commission enters executive session at approximately 9:16 a.m. to receive legal advice regarding the following matters: Vouchers and invoices, including questions related to reimbursement and classification of expenses; The process and legal considerations related to items listed under Exhibit A, including the Animal Shelter Advisory Board, spay and neuter program criteria, the GST contract for computer services, and potential litigation involving James W. Keenan. The Commission exits executive session at approximately 9:32 a.m. The Commission advises that no decisions are made in executive session.

Executive Session No. 2 - The Commission enters a second executive session at approximately 10:25 a.m. to receive legal advice regarding: The Fiduciary Commissioner's recommendation to remove Stephen D. Long as executor of the Estate of Odessie Ruth Long and appoint the Sheriff of Fayette County as executor. The Commission exits executive session at approximately 10:49 a.m. The Commission advises that no decisions are made in executive session.

Executive Session No. 3 - The Commission enters a third and final executive session again at approximately 10:52 a.m. p.m. to receive legal advice regarding: Vouchers and invoices; Potential litigation involving James W. Keenan; and Contractual matters related to Global Science and Technology (GST). The Commission exits executive session at approximately 12:18 p.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION - ALL 2026 MINUTES (CLICK TO RETURN TO THE TOP)

The Commission advises that no decisions are made in executive session.

The meeting adjourns at approximately 12:21 p.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
January 30, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), GREG FERNETT
PRESENT VIA ZOOM: ALLISON R. TAYLOR

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 30th day of January, 2026.

Board of Equalization and Review - The meeting opens with the Fayette County Board of Equalization and Review. With no presenters, Commissioner Brenemen motions to adjourn the Board of Equalization and Review until February 5, 2026. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the Commission meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.

Kevin "Twig" Willis leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Assessment Roll – Assessor Tara Tyree presents the 2026 assessment roll.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds – Assessor Tara Tyree presents the exonerations: Heart to Hands the Serendipity Shop, LLC, $88.00 and $97.00. Commissioner Fernett motions to approve the exonerations as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve an Order to Divide as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices – There were no vouchers or invoices presented.

Invoice: Bat Remediation - Invoices are presented for bat remediation services at county facilities, including $7,495 for the Memorial Building and $34,650 for the Courthouse. The remediation addresses health risks associated with bat guano.

Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve both invoices for payment. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meeting Minutes – No action is taken related to prior meeting minutes.

Estate Settlements - There were no estate settlements presented.

County Clerk Items – County Clerk Michelle Holly presents the emergency absentee voting policy with no changes from prior elections. Commissioner Fernett motions to approve. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision. Ms. Holly also provides an update on the statewide "I Voted" sticker contest for eighth graders, noting deadline extensions due to winter weather.

Employee Recognition - The Commission recognizes Sonny Milam, Danny Smith, Melvin Withrow, Kevin "Twig" Willis, and Jerry Adkins for their extensive snow and ice removal efforts that enabled courthouse operations following winter storms.

Decision & Discussion – Ruth Lanier – Exhibit A

Board of Ballot Commissioners – County Clerk Michelle Holly advises that, pursuant to state election procedures, ballot commissioners are appointed every two years by their respective Executive Committees. The Democratic Executive Committee appoints Jerry Allen of Oak Hill, and the Republican Executive Committee continues the appointment of Willie Vest of Oak Hill. The Clerk confirms that the County Commission does not make these appointments. No action is taken.

Audit Extension Requests - Requests are presented from the Farmland Protection Board and Fayette County Public Libraries for extensions of component unit audits to the end of February 2026. Discussion notes repeated delays by the same audit firm. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the extensions and authorize a letter to the State Auditor expressing concern about the repeated extension requests. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Region 4 / NRGRDA / WV First / Congressionally Directed Spending / Grant Writers - Commissioner Brenemen motions to defer the discussion of these priorities to the second February meeting (February 11, 2026). Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Spay & Neuter Program - Preliminary policy parameters are discussed, including income eligibility at 200% of federal poverty guidelines, a two-animal annual household limit, and a 90-day voucher period. No policy is adopted. Commissioner Brenemen motions to authorize County Administration Ruth Lanier to continue working on the continued development of the program as a living document. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Shooting Range Engineering Proposal – Sheriff's Deputy Kevin "Twig" Willis, representing the shooting range evaluation committee, advises the commissioners that the committee recommends awarding New River Engineering the contract for shooting range design services following proposal review and interviews.

Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) - Chief of Emergency Preparedness & Operations Jon "JAK" Kincaid presents an updated countywide Emergency Operations Plan, replacing a version last updated in approximately 2015. The plan is publicly accessible via https://fayette911wv.org/index.php/fayette-county-eop/ and will be reviewed annually. As a reminder for the citizens of Fayette County Chief Kincaid notes that those needing non-emergency assistance can call 304-574-3590. Commissioner Taylor noted the brief was focused on the existence of the plan but not any details of it. She requested a later presentation with a Cliff's notes version of the plan for the commissioners' information. No action is taken.

Executive Session - The Commission enters executive session from 9:37 a.m. to 10:21 a.m. for attorney advice on minutes. No decisions were made.

The meeting adjourns at approximately 10:22 a.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
February 5, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), ALLISON R. TAYLOR, GREG FERNETT

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION - ALL 2026 MINUTES (CLICK TO RETURN TO THE TOP)

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 5th day of February, 2026.

Board of Equalization and Review - The meeting opens with the Fayette County Board of Equalization and Review. With no presenters, Commissioner Brenemen motions to adjourn the Board of Equalization and Review until February 11, 2026. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the Commission meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

County Administrator Ruth Lanier leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds – Assessor Tara Tyree presents the exonerations: David & Karen A. Corum, $43.04; Thomas W. Bazzie, et al, $139.31; Boone East Development Co., $521.67. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the exonerations as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve an Order to Combine as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices – There were no vouchers or invoices presented.

Payroll – Commissioner Taylor motions to approve payroll for February 6th. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meeting Minutes – Minutes for the following meetings are presented for approval: December 10, 2025; January 7, 2026; January 21, 2026; and January 30, 2026. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Estate Settlements - There were no estate settlements presented.

Budget Presentation from Brian Good, Park Director – Mr. Good provides an update on park operations, winter usage, infrastructure maintenance, and upcoming improvements. Discussion includes winter recreation activity, trail usage, camp facility maintenance, graffiti remediation, fishing access improvements, and future trail development. Commissioner Taylor requests a formal maintenance plan and coordination with Maintenance Supervisor Sonny Milam and Building Inspector Dan Ooten for the Memorial Building. Commissioner Fernett asks about

a previously reported void under the Memorial Building; staff confirms it has been repaired.

Public Hearing for Stephen Davis Request for Right of Way Closure of Front Street – A public hearing is held on the joint request for Stephen J. Davis and Tanja Davis for the abandonment and vacation of an unused portion of Front Street. Testimony from the Davis's legal counsel, Mr. Conrad, and Mr. Davis confirms non-use of the street for over ten years, ownership of all adjacent parcels by the petitioners, and written consent from all lienholders. No opposition is presented. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the petition for abandonment of Front Street. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

City of Mount Hope Request for ARPA Fund Reallocation – The Mayor of Mount Hope requests approval to reallocate $250,000 in ARPA funds previously designated for the Appalachian Heights water project to water plant upgrades, including replacement of hydropneumatics pumps with turbine pumps and conversion of electronic actuators. Discussion includes projected cost savings, increased water output, and potential future expansion, including preliminary discussions involving the Town of Pax. Commissioner Taylor requests cost estimates and additional information regarding Pax's water system debt. Commissioner Taylor moves to postpone consideration of the request until the February 11, 2026, meeting. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Decision & Discussion – Ruth Lanier – Exhibit A

White Oak PSD Board Member Reappointment Request – The reappointment was completed at the last meeting. No action is required.

Letter Regarding FEMA Mitigation Property Request – Commissioner Taylor moves to send a letter to the pastor requesting the abandonment of FEMA-deeded property, informing him that the County is not permitted to deed FEMA property to entities other than government agencies or non-profit conservancy organizations. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

"I Voted" Sticker Contest – All commissioners independently select the same top three designs. Commissioner Taylor motions to submit the three selected designs to the County Clerk for forwarding to the State. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION - ALL 2026 MINUTES (CLICK TO RETURN TO THE TOP)

Executive Session - The Commission enters executive session from 9:16 a.m. to 9:29 a.m. for legal advice on the Letter Regarding FEMA Mitigation Property Request and for the personnel-related discussion regarding the "I Voted" Sticker Contest. The Commission enters a second executive session from 9:53 a.m. to 10:20 a.m. for legal advice on the City of Mount Hope Request for ARPA Fund Reallocation. No decisions are made.

The meeting adjourns at approximately 10:27 a.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
February 11, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), ALLISON R. TAYLOR, GREG FERNETT

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 11th day of February, 2026.

Board of Equalization and Review – The meeting opens with the Fayette County Board of Equalization and Review. With no presenters in person or via Zoom, Commissioner Brenemen motions to adjourn the Board of Equalization and Review until February 18, 2026, at 9:00 a.m. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the Commission meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Jina Belcher, Executive Director of the NRGRDA, leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds – Assessor Tara Tyree reports no exonerations, no orders to combine or divide land, and no refunds.

Vouchers and Invoices – Commissioner Taylor raises questions regarding the carpet replacement expense for Gauley River Volunteer Fire Department and the fire program software expense for Fayetteville Fire Department. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve all vouchers and invoices except the carpet expense and the fire program software expense pending clarification. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION - ALL 2026 MINUTES (CLICK TO RETURN TO THE TOP)

Meeting Minutes – Minutes from the February 5, 2026 meeting are presented for approval. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Estate Settlements – There are no estate settlements presented.

Decision & Discussion – Ruth Lanier – Exhibit A

Notice of Number of Election Officials – County Clerk Michelle Holly presents the standard order setting the number of election officials for the upcoming election. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the Notice of Number of Election Officials. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Fiduciary Commissioner Reports – County Clerk Holly reports that written updates were requested from all four fiduciary commissioners regarding open estates. One commissioner has fully complied, two have requested additional time, and one has not responded. Discussion follows. The matter is taken under advisement for legal advice in executive session.

Shooting Range Proposal/Contract – Commissioners note the proposal was received the prior day and request additional time for review. Commissioner Brenemen motions to postpone the Shooting Range Proposal until February 18, 2026. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Sheriff Budget Presentation – Sheriff McMullen presents the proposed budget. Requests include increased overtime allocations to support 12-hour shifts; $30,000 for five Motorola APX4000 radios; funding for the Celebrate forensic software license; supplementation of a $340,000 federal vehicle grant to purchase and outfit eight vehicles; salary adjustments for civilian employees; an increase in longevity pay; and budget restructuring for animal control. Discussion includes fleet management, long-term grant sustainability concerns, and future funding priorities. No formal action is taken.

Emergency Operations Plan (EOP) Presentation – The Emergency Management Director Jon "JAK" Kincaid presents the updated Emergency Operations Plan. The plan aligns with FEMA and WVEMD requirements, establishes emergency authority structure, and formalizes Emergency Operations Center procedures. A countywide emergency training is scheduled for March 26, 2026. The plan is available on the County website. No action is required.

Funding and Development Priorities / City of Mount Hope ARPA Reallocation Request / Fiduciary Commissioner Matters Executive Session – Commissioner Brenemen motions to enter executive session at 9:46 a.m. for legal advice regarding Funding and Development Priorities, the City of Mount Hope ARPA Reallocation Request, and Fiduciary Commissioner matters. The Commission returns to regular session at 12:22 p.m. No decisions are made.

City of Mount Hope Request for ARPA Fund Reallocation – Following executive session, Commissioner Taylor motions to postpone the Mount Hope discussion until the February 18, 2026 meeting to allow further discussion with the Mayor Kessinger and receipt of additional documentation. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions to adjourn. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

The meeting adjourns at approximately 12:23 p.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
February 18, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), ALLISON RAE TAYLOR, GREG FERNETT

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 18th day of February, 2026.

Board of Equalization and Review - The meeting opens with the Fayette County Board of Equalization and Review. With no presenters in person or via Zoom, Commissioner Brenemen motions to adjourn the Board of Equalization and Review sine die. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the Commission meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Jeff Petrie, Boone County Commissioner, leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds - Assessor Tara Tyree presents one exoneration: James Coleman –

Erroneous Value – $7.70. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the exoneration as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices - Discussion is held regarding Chief360 paging software vs. fire program software, the Gauley River Volunteer Fire Department carpet purchase, Airbnb for firefighter training vs. hotel, and radios previously approved for the Sheriff's Department based on the February 11 meeting quote. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve vouchers and invoices as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Payroll - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve payroll for February 20th. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meeting Minutes – Minutes from the February 11, 2026, meeting are presented for approval. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Estate Settlements - The following estate settlements are presented: John Ralph Burns; Sally Lou Hresan; Culton Overton Minor III; Louise Oliver; Eric Neil Redman. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the estate settlements as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Fiduciary Commissioner – Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the Fiduciary Commissioner's recommendations in the Estate of Sally Lou Hresan. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Decision & Discussion – Ruth Lanier – Exhibit A

AEP Revised Easement: Meadow River Rail Trail - An amended easement is presented allowing AEP right-of-way access across the Meadow River Rail Trail. The amendment permits wire or cable crossing only, with no posts or obstructions allowed on the trail surface. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the amended easement. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Beautification Committee Appointment - The Commission reviews and approves an order appointing Greg Bishop as the Health Department Representative on the Dilapidated Buildings and Beautification Committee to the unexpired term ending January 7, 2027. Commissioner Taylor motions to

approve the appointment. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Thank You Letter to Congresswoman Miller - A thank you letter to Congresswoman Miller regarding Congressionally-Directed Spending grant awarded to the Fayette County Sheriff's Department for cruiser purchase is presented. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the letter as edited. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Executive Session – At approximately 9:26 a.m., Commissioner Taylor motions to enter executive session for legal advice regarding the Mount Hope Water Project Upgrade Request. Commissioner Fernett seconds. The Commission exits executive session at 10:37 a.m. No decisions are made.

Appalachian Heights ARPA Allocation - Mayor Kessinger requests approval to allocate previously-awarded ARPA funding for the Appalachian Heights water expansion project to NRGRDA for completion of the project. He cited the City would stand to benefit from the B&O and ad valorum taxes from the project as well as its expansion of economic development toward Fayette County on Rt. 19. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve transferring the $250,000 allocated to the Appalachian Heights project from the City of Mt. Hope to NRGRDA. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Mount Hope Plant Upgrade Funding - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve $250,000 from Coal Reallocated funds for the City of Mount Hope to upgrade it water plant facilities to increase capacity to enable it to serve future development in the area. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Community Corrections Budget Presentation - Director Theresa Gregory presents the Community Corrections budget. Discussion includes adjustments to overtime, telephone, training and education, and contracted services due to expanded GPS monitoring; increased state screening fees; prior fiscal year revenue of approximately $275,000; and requested salary increases. No formal action is taken.

County Clerk Budget Presentation - The County Clerk presents the proposed budget, including raises between 3% and 6% based on performance reviews, consolidation of employee salaries into the main budget, request for a copier, request for updated hard copy West Virginia Code books, and inclusion of a quote for new voting machines within the elections budget. Discussion includes

Pax municipal election participation in November county elections. No formal action is taken.

Prosecuting Attorney Budget Presentation - Commissioner Taylor motions to postpone the Prosecuting Attorney budget presentation until March 4, 2026. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Brenemen motions to adjourn. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

The meeting adjourns at approximately 10:53 a.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
March 4, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), ALLISON RAE TAYLOR, GREG FERNETT

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 4th day of March, 2026.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the Commission meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Assessor Tara Tyree leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds - Assessor Tara Tyree presents the following exonerations: Karen Leathers, $89.02; Jason Pemberton, $775.58 and $952.98; Faith Rene Patterson, $40.40; Kevin & Demonica Parrish, $1,292.28; and Caleb Perkins, $373.92. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the exonerations as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices - Discussion regarding purchases from Mid-Atlantic Fire Rescue for various fire departments, including swiftwater rescue equipment and splash suits. Commissioner Taylor requests clarification regarding which departments are part of the Swiftwater Rescue Team and whether certain purchases should be associated with Station 18. After the discussion, Commissioner Taylor motions to approve vouchers and invoices as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Payroll - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve payroll for March 6, 2026. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meeting Minutes – Minutes from the February 18, 2026 meeting are presented for approval. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the minutes as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Estate Settlements - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the estate settlements as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Decision & Discussion – Ruth Lanier – Exhibit A

New Employees - Transport Officer: Stanley Browning began employment on February 23, 2026. Commissioner Taylor motions to ratify the hiring of Stanley Browning nunc pro tunc as Transport Officer effective February 23, 2026. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Temporary Election Office Employees: The County Clerk requests approval to hire two temporary employees, Sarah Tucker and Rebecca Settle, to assist with election duties beginning March 1, 2026. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the temporary hires as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Beautification Committee Appointment – Commissioner Taylor motions to appoint Mr. Buskus to the Beautification Committee. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Community Corrections Board Appointment – Commissioner Taylor motions to defer the appointment to allow the Community Corrections Board to meet and make a recommendation. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Project Red Rock Support Letter – Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve a letter of support for the Red Rock project. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Commissioner Taylor votes in opposition, citing concerns that the request originated from the legislature rather than Monroe County, opposition to the data center legislation associated with the project, concerns regarding lack of county control and transparency, and the inability to amend the original

legislation to provide protections for land-limited counties such as Fayette. The motion passes.

Encova Request for Proxy – The Commission considers a request from Encova Insurance regarding proxy designation for voting purposes. Commissioner Taylor motions to designate the Commission President as proxy for this purpose. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Right-of-Way Abandonment Petition – Lorenza and Bridget Loving – The right-of-way abandonment petition is postponed due to an error in the public notice. The item will be re-advertised and placed on a future agenda once the correct criteria is published.

Community Funding Requests and Letters of Support – The Commission reviews several requests for congressional support letters for community project funding.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve a support letter for the Town of Fayetteville for the Reynolds Street retaining wall replacement project. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve a support letter for the City of Oak Hill's request for a public works snow removal vehicle replacement. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve a support letter for the City of Oak Hill's request for a street sweeper acquisition project. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve a support letter for the Town of Ansted's request for funding for a full-time police officer salary for three years. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve a support letter for the Town of Ansted's request for support for two police cruisers. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve a support letter for the Town of Ansted's request for funding for a Chevrolet 2500 crew cab truck or similar vehicle for its maintenance department. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve a support letter for the Town of Ansted's request for funding for a skid steer for its maintenance department. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve a support letter for the City of Oak Hill's request for funding for the Greenview Splash Pad project. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Jail Consultant Bid Award – The Commission receives information regarding proposals for a Fayette County jail master plan review. Five submissions were received by the review committee, and after review WYK Associates and Chapman Technical were identified as the most competitive proposals. WYK Associates submitted the lowest bid at $17,250. A National Trust grant of $7,500 would offset a portion of the cost. Discussion is held regarding historic preservation considerations and potential future uses for the facility. The matter is tabled pending legal review, after which Commissioner Taylor motions to postpone the jail consultant bid award until the next meeting to allow the County Administrator time to ask some clarifying questions on the Commission's behalf. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Shooting Range Proposal and Contract – Representatives present a phased proposal for development of a law enforcement training facility and shooting range. Phase one would include site preparation, and phase two would construct a pistol range allowing deputies to conduct training locally. The estimated cost for phases one and two is approximately $650,000. Discussion includes construction timelines, potential local contractors, and future development phases. The Commission states a decision will be made at a later date following budget discussions, likely in April.

Executive Session – At approximately 10:32 a.m., Commissioner Taylor motions to enter executive session for personnel matters regarding the Beautification Committee appointment, Community Corrections Board appointment, and legal advice regarding the Project Red Rock support letter, jail consultant bid award, and animal shelter matters. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision. The Commission exits executive session at approximately 12:03 p.m. No decisions are made.

Public Comment – Attorney Steven New, without notice and without being on the agenda asked to place on the record that he had tendered a letter to the Fayette County Prosecuting Attorney pursuant to an order from a federal judge concerning a matter involving a private citizen "Jane Doe" and Larry Clay. No action is taken and Mr. New was advised he was out of order.

Prosecuting Attorney Budget Presentation – Prosecuting Attorney Anthony Ciliberti presents the proposed budget for the office, which is largely unchanged from the previous year except for two salary adjustments. The Prosecutor requests an increase for Ethan Brogan from $64,000 to $70,000 per year due to increased experience and licensing, and an increase for Jennifer Crane from $92,000 to $100,000 per year to remain competitive with surrounding counties based on her experience. No formal action is taken.

Fire Department Budget Presentations – Several fire departments present their proposed budgets and capital needs for the upcoming fiscal year, including requests for equipment, bunker gear, facility improvements, and vehicles. Departments presenting include Ansted, Armstrong Creek, Boomer, Gauley Bridge, Meadow Bridge, Montgomery, and Oak Hill. Loop Creek, Gauley River, and Nutall Fire Departments did not present and will be rescheduled. Discussion also includes the need for replacement mobile radios in fire apparatus and the potential for a countywide purchasing strategy.

Adjournment – Commissioner Taylor motions to adjourn. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

The meeting adjourns at approximately 12:11 p.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
March 18, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President) and GREG FERNETT
VIA ZOOM: ALLISON RAE TAYLOR

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 18th day of March, 2026.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the Commission meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

County Clerk Michelle Holly leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds - Assessor Tara Tyree presents the following exonerations: Makayla Conley, $262.86; Jessica E. or Andy Lovejoy, $315.12; Kyle L. & Ashley N. Dixon, $35.34 and $35.34; Amy Beth Lewis, $594.74; Jamey Darrin Smith, $264.90; Kristi & James Rider, $1,524.04; Meghan King, $414.74; Harley D. Waddell, $266.30; Leonard Powell, $1,158.24; Timothy R. or Evelyn M. Auxier, $1,037.52; Jackie L. Brown, II, $450.50; Robert L. Brownfield, $1,217.92; Stephanie L. McGraw, $233.40; Timothy S. & Kimberly K. Perkins, $473.88; Brian E. Richmond, $1,435.28; James F. & Jean Roark, $824.00; Juan Rico Dixon Tucker, $797.32; Zachary C. Winter, $239.02; Theodore Wayne Bell, II, $959.54; Thomas & Christina Groves, $14.82; Samuel M., Sr., & Linda L. Jasper, $632.54; JP Morgan Chase Bank, $744.46; George Rodney, Jr., & Kimberly Ann Leake, $1,230.50. Commissioner Fernett motions to approve as presented. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices - Commissioner Fernett motions to approve vouchers and invoices as presented. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Payroll - Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve payroll for March 20, 2026. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meeting Minutes – Minutes from the March 4, 2026 meeting are presented for approval. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Estate Settlements - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the estate settlements as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Jail Redevelopment Consultant – James Swiger from WYK Associates presents information regarding evaluation of the former jail structure. Discussion includes the age and structural complexity of the building, integration of multiple additions, and considerations for demolition versus rehabilitation. The presentation outlines potential structural challenges, historical preservation requirements, and the need for a comprehensive assessment, including possible 3D scanning to evaluate building conditions. The Commission discusses cost-effectiveness and next steps and requests a proposed scope of work and cost estimates based on questions to be developed by the Commission. No formal action is taken.

Region IV Update – Leslie Taylor provides an update on infrastructure and community development projects throughout Fayette County. She reports that projects total over $100 million in investment and all either fully funded or partially funded, with multiple projects either under construction or in pre-construction phases. Projects discussed include sewer extensions, water system upgrades, demolition projects, and community facility improvements across several municipalities.

REAP Demolition: Phase IX Bid Opening - Angela Gerald presents four sealed bids for demolition of nine properties: ACE Everything, $186,405; Giannini Construction & Excavating (Smithers), $121,500; Reclaim (Fairmont), $110,500; Empire Salvage (Bluefield), $54,400. Commissioner Brenemen motions, pending receipt of all required documentation, to accept the low bid from Empire Salvage. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

REAP Funding Allocation: Kanawha Falls Property – Ms. Gerald advises that there is a little less than $80,000 left in the grant and makes a request to allocate $9,000 from remaining REAP funds to demolish a property in Kanawha Falls that did not qualify in the original phase. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the request. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision. Discussion is held regarding remaining funds and potential future eligibility pending legal proceedings on additional properties.

Budget Discussion - The Commission discusses the upcoming budget and identifies a need to reduce expenditures by approximately $83,400 to achieve a balanced budget. It is noted that no staff reductions or salary increases are planned. Commissioner Brenemen motions to direct staff to prepare the budget document for approval at the next meeting. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision. Commissioner Brenemen requests that a fire levy item be placed on the next agenda.

CDS Application Sponsorship: Pedestrian Bridge (Fayette County Park Trails Project) - A request is presented for sponsorship of a Congressional Directed Spending application for a pedestrian bridge project. Discussion is held regarding maintenance responsibilities, materials, and permitting requirements. It is noted the bridge will be pedestrian-only, constructed of metal, and subject to Department of Highways permitting. Commissioner Brenemen motions to submit the application through Region IV. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Decision & Discussion – Ruth Lanier – Exhibit A

Nomination of Election Officials - Michelle Holly presents nominations for election officials. Discussion is held regarding vacancies and the need for additional recruitment. The Commission directs that a press release be issued to solicit additional applicants. Commissioner Brenemen motions to accept the nominations. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Grant Acceptance: WVDEP Waste Collection - A grant in the amount of $20,000 requiring signature is presented. Commissioner Fernett motions to approve the grant. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision. Commissioner Brenemen signs the grant documents.

Day Report Center (DRC) Relocation Update - Teresa Gregory provides an update on the relocation of the Day Report Center to the former New River Clinic property in Scarbro. She outlines the building layout, noting that only a portion of the facility will be utilized, with potential for additional partners to occupy unused space. She reports the building is largely ready for occupancy, pending restoration of internet and phone services. Existing security cameras can largely be reused with minimal additions. Discussion is held regarding maintenance of the property. Ms. Gregory states that custodial work will be handled internally by program participants, though additional equipment and supplies are needed, including maintenance tools. Commissioner Taylor recommends that requested items be approved within existing spending authority. Commissioner Brenemen requests notification when the move-in date is finalized.

PSD Board Appointments - Following the resignation of Diana Kincaid, the New Haven PSD Board recommends Tracy Syner as replacement. Commissioner Taylor motions to appoint Mr. Syner. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision. Commissioner Taylor motions to direct the County Prosecuting Attorney Anthony Ciliberti to proceed as discussed in executive session regarding the Gauley River PSD Board. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Hazard Mitigation Lease – Discussion is deferred to executive session. Following executive session, Commissioner Taylor motions to direct the County Prosecuting Attorney Anthony Ciliberti to incorporate

accountability provisions into leases. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision. Commissioner Taylor further motions to deny the lease requests currently before the Commission. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Opioid Settlement Documents – Discussion is deferred to executive session. Following executive session, Commissioner Taylor motions to accept counsel's recommendation and authorize the Commission President to sign the documents. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Executive Session – At approximately 10:01 a.m., Commissioner Taylor motions to enter executive session for personnel matters related to PSD appointments and legal matters regarding opioid settlement documents, and hazard mitigation leases. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision. The Commission exits executive session at approximately 11:08 a.m. No decisions are made during executive session.

Adjournment – Commissioner Taylor motions to adjourn. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

The meeting adjourns at approximately 11:10 a.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
April 1, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), ALLISON RAE TAYLOR, GREG FERNETT

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 1st day of April, 2026.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the Commission meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

The Pledge of Allegiance is led by Ruth Lanier, County Administrator

John Brenemen moved to Exhibit A, Item 1-
Decision & Discussion- Recognize Top Contestants for I Voted Sticker Contest- Michelle Holly presented Winners of the I-Voted

sticker contest with Certificate and copies of stickers that will be available at all voting locations. These students were from Midland Trail- 1st Place Sarabella Wood from Midland Trail, 2nd Place- Presleigh Hypes from Midland Trail, and Allie Ruleman from Fayetteville pre-k-8. County Commissioners take photographs with contestant winners.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds - Exonerations: Tara Tyree, Assessor presents exonerations for Walter Charles Conelly III $1028.22 and $885.66; Kenneth & Patsy Sullivan $487.38; Ray Ritchie $9.18; Gainwell Engineering Inc $525.74; Roosevelt Lamon and Jillian Anne Lynch $1,063.72; Shane Redden $282.84; Marjorie Lou and Joseph R Davis $385.38; Commissioner Taylor motions to approve. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices – Will discuss vouchers and invoices later in meeting.

Payroll- Commissioner Taylor motions to approved Payroll for 04/03 and 04/17, Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meeting Minutes – Commissioner Taylor motions to approved March 18th and March 25th meeting minutes Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Estate Settlements - No estate settlements are presented.

Decision & Discussion – Ruth Lanier – Exhibit A

Letter to Meadow Bridge Regarding Jennings Randolph Award - The Commission recognizes Meadow Bridge for winning the Jennings Randolph Award for 32 years straight, The Jennings Randolph Award-winning schools are public and private West Virginia high schools that have a student-led effort to register to vote at least 85% of their eligible senior class officials.
Commissioner Taylor motions to send letter to Meadow Bridge High School commending them on their continued success. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Community Corrections Grant Application for Signature - Director Teresa Gregory presents . Commissioner Taylor asks about a match. Ms. Gregory says it is now a 30% match. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve Community

Corrections Grant application for signature. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Homeland Security Grant Award Acceptance – The Homeland Security grant is for purchase of Tac Radios- Commissioner Taylor motions to accept Grant award. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Ratify Opioid Settlement Document
Policy for Opioid Settlement Documents – Discussion was made regarding Opioid Settlement Documents- Commissioner Taylor motions to postpone and place on next agenda. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Budget Letter for Elected Officials and Department Heads- Commissioner Taylor motions to approve budget letter for Elected Officials and Departments Heads. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Support Letter Policy- Will need to be discussed with legal counsel in executive session.

Kanawha Falls PSD Board Member Appointment- Will need to be discussed with legal counsel in executive session.

Future Meeting Dates- Discussion was help on need to add May 6th Commission meeting, May 18th for Canvass, May 22nd to Certify Election via Zoom at 9:00am, and cancel May 27th meeting. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve change in meeting dates. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices – Josh Davis and John McGinnis request for bid out radio purchase with a May 6th Bid opening. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve Radio Purchase Bid to be advertised with bids to be opened May 6th. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Executive Session - At approximately 10:09am., Commissioner Taylor motions to enter executive session for legal advice regarding a support letter, Animal Shelter Policy Review Animal Shelter Board Member Applications, Animal Shelter Job Review, Vouchers and Invoices, and Kanawha Falls PSD Board Member Appointment.

Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision. The Commission returns from executive session at approximately 11:10 a.m. No decisions are made.

Kanawha Falls PSD Board Member Appointment- Commissioner Taylor motions to approve Billy Wriston as board member to replace Dan Hill. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Animal Shelter Policy Review- In regards to Policy Commissioner Taylor motions to strike from agenda and add to another agenda once policy is ready. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Animal Shelter Board Member Applications- Taylor motions to move to April 21st agenda in order to review application. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Animal Shelter Job Review- Taylor motions to move to April 21st agenda Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices- Commissioner Taylor motions to approve vouchers and invoices except Alarm system from Pax Fire Department. Commissioner Fernett seconds

Adjournment – Commissioner Taylor motions to adjourn. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

The meeting adjourns at approximately 11:10 a.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
April 21, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), ALLISON RAE TAYLOR, GREG FERNETT

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 21st day of April, 2026.

Election Equipment Testing at Fayette County Memorial Building - The meeting opens at 8:00 a.m. with election equipment testing at the Fayette County Memorial Building. All equipment was confirmed to be in proper working order.

After returning the Courthouse, Commissioner Brenemen calls the regular Commission meeting to order at 9:00 a.m. He notes that the meeting day was changed from Wednesday to Tuesday to accommodate election equipment testing.

Commissioner Greg Fernett leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds - Assessor Tara Tyree presents exonerations: Kimberly White (Broyles), $115.58, $116.40, $110.06, $110.06, and $110.06; Clinton O & Barbara E. McGuire, $166.27 and $183.55; John D. & Donna J. Grimmett, $8.88; Keva Armstrong, $92.60; Paul Harmon Hospitality LLC, $2,000.00; Cheryl L. Coleman, $172.00 and $172.00; Jeffrey W. Barnhouse, $47.36; Laura L. & Anthony E. Kiser, $146.26; Noah Feltner, $24.90; Downey Ridge Environmental Co., $771.74; Tracy R. Harrah, $320.72; Sandstone Jetboats, $335.00. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the exonerations as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Assessor Tara Tyree presents one order to combine land. Commissioner Fernett motions to approve orders to combine land. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Assessor Tara Tyree presents one order to divide land. Commissioner Fernett motions to approve orders to divide land. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices - Discussion is held regarding fire department expenditures, including concerns about a department exceeding its budget, a Sam's Club membership, office supplies, and a file cabinet purchase. Additional discussion includes a reimbursement request for batteries and chargers. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve vouchers and invoices with the following exceptions: Denial of reimbursement for Sam's Club membership, banker boxes, cups, and a file cabinet; postponement of a $1,390 reimbursement for batteries and chargers pending clarification. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision. Commissioner Taylor further motions to send a letter to the fire department that has exceeded its budget, restricting future reimbursements to essential bills only. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Payroll - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve payroll for May 1, 2026. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meeting Minutes – Commissioner Taylor motions to postpone approval of the prior meeting's minutes until the next meeting. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Estate Settlements - The following estate settlements are presented: Stacey Ann Cox, Betty Lois Dummitt, Lychia Ruth Jenkins, and Patrick Wayne Stone. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the estate settlements as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Lay the Levy (FY 2026-2027)- Projected levy amounts are presented: Fire Levy at $2,030,784; Library Levy at $624,424; Law Enforcement Levy at $1,366,982. Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the levy rates for fiscal year 2026-2027. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Decision & Discussion – Ruth Lanier – Exhibit A

Tax Office Request to Unsuspend Tax Tickets - The Tax Office requests approval to unsuspend delinquent tax tickets. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the letters as presented. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision. Policy discussion is deferred to executive session. Following executive session, Commissioner Taylor motions to postpone the policy decision to the May 6, 2026 meeting. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Region IV Drawdown Request (ARPA Trail Project) - A drawdown request totaling $33,223.89 is presented for the Fayette County Park Trail and Needles Eye Improvement Project. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the drawdown request. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

New Employees – The 911 Center requests approval to rehire previous employee Sarah Vaughn. The Parks Department requests approval to move one part-time employee to full-time and to hire one new part-time employee. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the personnel changes. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Hazard Mitigation Leases - Commissioner Taylor motions to postpone discussion of the leases to the next meeting pending updated documentation. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Ratify Support Letter: City of Montgomery - Commissioner Taylor motions to ratify the previously signed support letter signed earlier due to time constraints. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Delegate Authority to Commission President to Sign Opioid Litigation Documents - Commissioner Taylor motions to delegate authority to Commissioner Brenemen to sign opioid lawsuit-related documents upon advice of counsel. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Spay and Neuter Grant - Commissioner Taylor motions to ratify Commissioner Brenemen's signature accepting the $17,500 grant. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

AWAY MOU - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the AWAY MOU. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Audit Report - Commissioner Taylor motions to authorize Commissioner Brenemen to sign the audit report upon completion, with ratification to follow. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Shooting Range Project, Phase 1 - Chris Burford presents Phase 1 of the shooting range project, consisting of site preparation and dirt work totaling approximately $450,000, with additional projected costs of $145,000 for engineering, permitting, and related services. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve Phase 1 of the project and authorize the Commission President to sign the contract upon review and approval by legal counsel. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Executive Session – At approximately 9:24 a.m., Commissioner Taylor motions to enter executive session to discuss legal matters related to the Fire Department MOU, Animal Shelter policy, and Tax Office policy as well as personnel matters related to the animal shelter board. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision. The Commission returns from executive session at approximately 9:57 a.m. No decisions are made.

Fire Department MOU – The Fire Department Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is presented for discussion. The Commission determines further review is needed. The matter is taken into executive session for legal advice. No action is taken.

Mayor Kessinger Funding Request for Dilapidated Buildings – Commissioner Taylor motions to move this item to the May 6, 2026 meeting since the mayor could not appear due to a hearing. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Animal Shelter Board Appointments - Commissioner Taylor motions to appoint the following individuals to the Fayette County Animal Shelter Board: Crystal Akers (Oak Hill), Brittany Marshall (Shady Spring), Karen Douglas (Fayetteville), Rachel Bragg (Scarbro), and Jason Shuff (Oak Hill). Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

REAP Phase 10 Bid Opening - Bids are received from ACE Everything, LLC, (Ripley) for $60,200; Empire Salvage (Princeton) for $26,500; and Reclaim (Fairmont) for $77,062. Commissioner Taylor motions to award the bid to Empire Salvage pending verification of all documentation. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Brenemen motions to adjourn. Commissioner Fernett seconds. Unanimous decision.

The meeting adjourns at approximately 10:08 a.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
May 13, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), ALLISON RAE TAYLOR

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 13th day of May, 2026 having postponed its May 6 meeting due to Commissioner Fernett's passing.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the Commission meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioner Brenemen opens the meeting by recognizing the passing of Commissioner Greg Fernett and reflects on his service to the Commission, Fayette County, SSAC sports, Little League baseball, and the community. A moment of silence is observed in Commissioner Fernett's honor.

Commissioner Brenemen states the Commission is accepting resumes through May 19, 2026, at noon to fill Commissioner Fernett's vacant seat in accordance with state code requirements. Discussion includes the statutory appointment process and the temporary nature of the appointment until the November election is certified.

Fayetteville Fire Department Deputy Chief Joel Fernett leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds – Gina Taylor from the Assessor's Office presents the following exonerations: New River Auction & Sales, $50.12 and $54.60; Barton R. DePaul, $63.32, $50.48 and $42.22; Auxier Welding, $16.58; Lloyd D. Harrell, Sr., $232.52; John H. & Rita G. Goins, $82.92; Shandale McCall, $565.60; Sterling A. & Shirley Miller, $99.98; Cassandra Negrete, $11.10; Grorge Mathew & Roxanna M. Hale, $1,118.54; Gregory K. Mitchell, $1,195.12; Tracy R. Harrah, $160.36; Lonnie Alfred Allen, $364.57; Danny W. Adkins, et al., $879.57; Keith's Used Cars, LLC, $622.72; Michael Clark, $203.60. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the exonerations as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices – Commissioner Taylor explains that additional review time is needed for volunteer fire department reimbursement requests due to the volume of submitted vouchers. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve all vouchers and invoices except the volunteer fire department reimbursements, which will be considered at the May 22, 2026, meeting. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Volunteer Fire Department Reimbursements – Discussion is held regarding invoices submitted by the Oak Hill Fire Department that exceed the Commission's 90-day submission policy, including invoices from a prior fiscal year. Commissioner Taylor motions to issue an Order to Show Cause requiring representatives from the Oak Hill Fire Department and City of Oak Hill to appear before the Commission at 9:30 a.m. on May 22, 2026, to explain the delayed submissions and request a good-cause exception to Commission policy. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Payroll – Commissioner Taylor motions to approve payroll for May 15, 2026, and May 29, 2026. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meeting Minutes – Commissioner Taylor motions to postpone approval of the prior meeting minutes until the next meeting. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Estate Settlements - Estate Settlements – Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the estate settlements as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Bid Opening: Fayette County Memorial Building Masonry Project – Bids are opened for masonry and repair work at the Fayette County Memorial Building. Keystone Waterproofing, Inc. submits a bid of $275,000. Dan Hill Construction submits a bid of $426,339. Discussion is held regarding masonry repairs and preservation work needed at the building. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve Keystone Waterproofing, Inc., pending the provision of all required documentation. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Bid Opening: Fire Department Radios – One bid packet is received from Discount Communications containing proposals for multiple radio configurations. Discussion is held regarding single-band radios, dual-band radios, mobile truck radios, interoperability with surrounding counties, and department-specific needs. Fire department representatives explain the radio allocation process and funding structure.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the purchase of 131 Kenwood NX-5300 portable radios with full keypads from Discount Communications at a cost slightly exceeding $247,036.40 due to the additional radio beyond the quoted amount. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the expenditure of up to $270,000 in fire levy funds toward the radio purchases, including 35 Kenwood VP8000 portable radios. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the purchase of 10 Kenwood NX-5800 mobile radios for fire department vehicles. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Decision & Discussion – Ruth Lanier – Exhibit A

Letter Recognizing WVU Foundation Scholars – Commissioner Taylor motions to approve a letter recognizing students selected as WVU Foundation Scholars. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Region IV ARPA Funds Drawdown Request #2 for Park Project – Cassie Lawson with Region IV presents Resolution Request #2 for the Fayette County Soft Surface Trail Plan Implementation Project. The request includes reimbursement totaling $23,122.50 for project administration, preliminary design, permitting, and consultant work completed to date. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the drawdown request

as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Delinquent Land Listing for Approval – Discussion is held regarding the annual delinquent land listing publication. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the delinquent land listing for publication. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

New Hire Approval Deputy Sheriff – Commissioner Taylor motions to ratify the deputy sheriff hire approval as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Festival Funding Request Award and Letter – Commissioner Taylor motions to postpone the festival funding request award and letter until the next meeting. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

High Intensity Drug Trafficking Area Grant Acceptance – Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the grant acceptance as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Hazard Mitigation Leases – Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the hazard mitigation leases as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Jail Consultant Contract – Discussion is held regarding the former jail structure and the courthouse walkway connection. Discussion includes structural preservation concerns and proposed 3D scanning services from WYK Associates. Commissioner Brenemen states that he would like to see a 3D rendering showing how the buildings are connected and how the walkway removal could be addressed.

Letter to Supreme Court Regarding Family Court Lease – Discussion is held regarding reimbursement rates and square footage calculations associated with the Family Court lease space. The Commission notes discrepancies in previously reported square footage and states that additional records and documentation are needed before responding to the Supreme Court. Commissioner Taylor motions to postpone the item until the May 22, 2026, meeting. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Fiduciary Commissioner Letter – Commissioner Taylor states that the Prosecuting Attorney has not yet completed a draft

letter for Commission review. Commissioner Taylor motions to postpone the item until the May 22, 2026, meeting. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Executive Session - The Commission enters executive session at 9:44 a.m. to discuss for legal advice regarding the letter to Supreme Court regarding the family court lease. The Commission returns to regular session at 10:50 a.m. No decisions are made.

The meeting adjourns at approximately 10:59 a.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
PRIMARY ELECTION CANVASS
May 18, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY MEMORIAL BUILDING

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), ALLISON RAE TAYLOR

The Fayette County Commission met to canvass the primary election May 18, 2026.

Commission President Brenemen calls the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Prosecuting Attorney Anthony Ciliberti led the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Brenemen motions to set the bond for a recount at $300. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commission President Brenemen blindly chose two precincts for the hand count. Precincts 18 and 72 are randomly selected.

The Commission discusses a voter registration issue involving a gentleman whose voter registration had previously been corrected to Fayette County; however, during the election process, the registration reverted back to Kanawha County. The Commission upholds the challenge regarding the voter registration issue since it cannot count a ballot for a voter who isn't registered in Fayette County. The Commission further asks the Prosecuting Attorney to contact the Secretary of State and his counterparts in Kanawha County since the voter corrected his address and it was apparently changed by an unknown party to a different address again in December 2025.

The Commission discusses six absentee ballots associated with a nursing home that are postmarked one day too late. Commissioner

Taylor motions to send a letter to counsel for the hospital that owns the nursing home regarding disenfranchising the voters who cast the absentee ballots. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

The Commission discusses voting irregularities discovered during the canvass process involving the Fayette County Republican Executive Committee races for the Female New Haven District seat and the Male Plateau District seat. The Commission notes that the Prosecuting Attorney's Office is investigating the matter.

Commissioner Taylor motions to enter executive session at 2:13 p.m. for legal advice with the Prosecuting Attorney regarding the voter registration issue involving the challenged voter whose registration reverted to Kanawha County. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

The Commission returns from executive session at approximately 2:18 p.m. No decisions are made in executive session.

Commissioner Brenemen motions to declare the election results and add 13 votes. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

The successful results of canvass and the hand count are declared at 2:49 p.m.

The meeting adjourns at 2:49 p.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
May 22, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), ALLISON RAE TAYLOR

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 22nd day of May, 2026.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the Commission meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Prosecuting Attorney Anthony Ciliberti leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds - Assessor Tara Tyree presents the following exonerations: Pamela Aline Hunt & Billy E., Jr., $871.60; Duana N. Neal, $211.26; and Ronnie & Susan Estep, $194.10. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the exonerations as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the order to combine existing property. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices Discussion - The Commission discusses City of Oak Hill Volunteer Fire Department expenses. Representatives from the City of Oak Hill and the Oak Hill Volunteer Fire Department state that administrative transitions resulted in mistakes, late submissions, and reimbursement items falling through the cracks. They state that the reimbursement process has been reviewed and streamlined, and that future submissions will be made through one person in one packet.

Commissioner Taylor states that the Commission understands the administrative transitions but notes that the county makes good-cause exceptions to the reimbursement policy only when appropriate. Commissioner Taylor states that the fire levy is an excess tax and that reimbursement requests must be for eligible fire department expenses.

The Commission discusses several submitted items, including a service truck expense, cell phone-related expenses, a file cabinet, and a Frontier bill from the previous fiscal year. Representatives from the City of Oak Hill state that revised submissions will be provided and that some items have been removed or corrected.

Commissioner Taylor states that the Commission will review the submissions carefully and ask any questions as needed. Commissioner Taylor and Commissioner Brenemen state that the county has surplus file cabinets and furniture available if needed.

Commissioner Taylor states that the Commission expects to make a decision regarding the Oak Hill Volunteer Fire Department expenses at the next meeting.

Executive Sessions – Session 1 is from 9:07 a.m. to 9:28 a.m., discussing certification of election results with counsel. No decisions are made.

Session 2 is from 9:35 a.m. to 10:25 a.m., discussing legal advice regarding Oak Hill Volunteer Fire Department expenses, the County Commission seat, the family court lease, a letter to the Fiduciary Commissioner, and the election investigation update, as well as a personnel matter regarding the County Commission seat. No decisions are made.

Session 3 is from 10:49 a.m. to 11:47 a.m. to interview applicants for the vacant County Commission seat. No decisions are made.

Vouchers and Invoices Approval - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve all vouchers and invoices, with the exception of Oak Hill Volunteer Fire Department expenses, which will be reviewed further. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meeting Minutes - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the prior meeting minutes from April 21, May 13, and May 18, 2026. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Estate Settlements - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the estate settlements. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Estate of Darrell Ray Sharp: Order Confirming Recommendation of Fiduciary Commissioner - Commissioner Taylor motions to accept the recommendations of the Fiduciary Commissioner with regard to the Estate of Darrell Ray Sharp. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

WV Corp. Renewal 2026-2027 - Commissioner Taylor motions to renew the county's liability insurance policy with WV Corp. for 2026-2027. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Order to Place County Commission Vacancy on November General Election Ballot - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the order to place the County Commission vacancy on the November General Election ballot. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

County Clerk Michelle Holly explains that the Democratic and Republican Executive Committees may nominate someone for the November General Election ballot according to their party rules. She states that the information must be supplied to her office on a form from the committee, and that the individual must pay the proper filing fee and file a proper announcement. She states that the deadline is August 17, 2026. She further states that independent candidates may also run and must gather signatures

equal to 1% of the number of votes cast in that race during the 2024 General Election.

Commissioner Taylor states that another Republican Executive Committee meeting has been scheduled out of an abundance of caution regarding notice requirements.

Bid Opening Fire Training Center - The Commission opens bids for the Fire Training Center project. Bids are received from Accelerated Construction Services, Dan Hill Construction, and Ganday Enterprises. Accelerated Construction Services submits a bid of $1,532,294.00 for item one, $1,242,854.00 for item two, and $80,300.00 for item three.

Dan Hill Construction submits a bid of $1,400,280.00 for item one, $745,268.00 for item two, and $67,609.00 for item three. Ganday Enterprises submits a bid of $1,735,000.00 for item one, $1,340,000.00 for item two, and $50,996.75 for item three. Commissioner Taylor states that Dan Hill Construction has the lowest bid by far.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve Dan Hill Construction's bid pending review and compliance with the bidding requirements by the Fire Association. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Election Investigation Update - Commissioner Taylor discusses voting irregularities in two races, where some votes were cast on Republican ballots by non-Republicans. Commissioner Taylor states that one candidate requested a recount. Commissioner Taylor further states that, as the Board of Canvassers, the Commission has limited authority regarding certification, but that the County Commission, through the Prosecuting Attorney, is investigating the irregularities.

Certify Election Results - Commissioner Taylor motions to certify the election results, with the exception of the race for the male Plateau District seat on the Fayette County Republican Executive Committee. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Hazard Mitigation Lease - Commissioner Taylor motions to postpone the Hazard Mitigation Lease until the next meeting. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Festival Fund Request Awards and Letter - Commissioner Taylor discusses festival fund request awards and states that the

Commission previously discussed giving $1,000 to each municipality for one annual festival per year upon request. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the festival fund request letter. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Response to Supreme Court Regarding Family Court Square Footage – Commissioner Taylor motions to have counsel reach out to the Supreme Court regarding an update on the family court lease. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Letter to Fiduciary Commissioner Regarding Reports and Funds - Commissioner Taylor motions to have the Prosecuting Attorney send a letter to the Fiduciary Commissioner who resigned, requesting that he report on his cases and return the funds for the people he was representing. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Appointment to Vacant County Commissioner Seat - Commissioner Brenemen asks the applicants for the vacant County Commission seat who are present to stand and thanks them for their willingness to serve Fayette County.

Commissioner Brenemen states that the Commission spoke with five applicants to fill Commissioner Greg Fernett's seat until the November election. Commissioner Brenemen states that all five applicants gave strong interviews and shared helpful ideas, and that the Commission would like to stay in touch with them. Commissioner Brenemen motions to appoint Chuck Miller to fill Commissioner Greg Fernett's seat. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor states that nine people applied for the position, two did not live in the Plateau District, and two of the remaining applicants were not present to speak with the Commission.

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
SPECIAL SESSION
May 26, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), ALLISON RAE TAYLOR, CHUCK MILLER

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION - ALL 2026 MINUTES (CLICK TO RETURN TO THE TOP)

The Fayette County Commission meets in special session on this 26th day of May, 2026.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Commissioner Miller leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Commissioner Brenemen and Commissioner Miller appear in person. Commissioner Taylor appears by Zoom. Counsel Michael Taylor also appears by Zoom.

Discussion and Decision Regarding Recount and Election Contest Process – The Commission meets in special session to discuss the recount requested by William J. Vest regarding the male Plateau District seat on the Fayette County Republican Executive Committee.

Counsel Michael Taylor explains that there has been a request for a recount and that Mr. Vest is present. Counsel states that Mr. Vest has requested a recount and is contesting the election based on the allegation that several individuals voted in the Republican primary election who should not have voted in the Republican primary election.

Counsel explains that, based on the nature of the allegations involving alleged fraud, illegality, or voter eligibility issues, a recount is not expected to change the vote totals because the challenged votes cannot be separated or recast through a recount. Counsel states that if Mr. Vest wishes to proceed with a recount, the Commission will not stop him, but that the purpose of the meeting is to explain that a recount is not believed to be necessary for Mr. Vest to proceed with an election contest.

Mr. Vest addresses the Commission. He states that he is contesting the election and discusses his election work experience. He states that he is an Army veteran and served the State for 35 years in corrections. Mr. Vest references a 1905 case involving Fayette County and election irregularities. He also states that he was told Commissioner Brenemen would not be involved in the process because Commissioner Brenemen’s stepson is involved in the affected race.

Mr. Vest outlines the election process as he understands it, including voter identification, poll book procedures, ballot issuance, voting machine procedures, and the handling of ballot stubs. Mr. Vest states that he believes there should be a special election because he believes the votes are tainted. He

states that poll workers should receive additional training and that five poll workers should be assigned to each polling location. Mr. Vest suggests holding a special election at the Memorial Building in August and states that the affected voters' voices should be heard.

Commissioner Taylor clarifies that the purpose of the special session is not to decide the election contest itself, but to determine whether Mr. Vest wishes to proceed with or waive the recount. Commissioner Taylor explains that the Commission is giving Mr. Vest the option to skip the recount because a recount is expected to produce the same numbers and could cost Mr. Vest money without changing the result. Commissioner Taylor states that Mr. Vest is not losing his ability to contest the election.

Commissioner Taylor states that Commissioner Brenemen will abstain from voting on the matter and that Commissioner Miller was sworn in so that Commissioner Taylor and Commissioner Miller could vote on the issue. Counsel Michael Taylor confirms that Commissioner Brenemen should abstain due to a potential conflict.

Counsel Michael Taylor states that he reviewed the 1905 case referenced by Mr. Vest and also references a more recent case from 2000. Mr. Vest states that he believes the 2000 case does not apply and expresses concern that he has been told a recount may cost thousands of dollars, while he was also told that the $300 paid was for a bond.

Mr. Vest asks whether the voters can be separated. County Clerk Michelle Holly states that they cannot. Mr. Vest states that he does not wish to proceed with a recount, but that he does contest the election.

Commissioner Taylor motions to allow Mr. Vest to proceed to the election contest portion of the process before the County Commission and to allow him to contest the election without proceeding with the recount. Commissioner Miller seconds. Commissioner Taylor votes aye. Commissioner Miller votes aye. Commissioner Brenemen abstains due to a potential conflict. Motion passes.

Certification of Remaining Election Results – Counsel states that because the recount will not proceed, the Board of Canvassers must certify the results for the male Plateau District seat on the Fayette County Republican Executive Committee so the contest process may move forward.

Commissioner Taylor motions to certify the results, as the Board of Canvassers, for the male Plateau District seat on the Fayette County Republican Executive Committee, completing the election certification results. Commissioner Miller seconds. Commissioner Taylor votes aye. Commissioner Miller votes aye. Commissioner Brenemen abstains. Motion passes.

Election Contest Process and Recount Bond – Counsel states that Mr. Vest will need to provide evidence to Commissioner Taylor and Commissioner Miller as part of the election contest process and recommends that Mr. Vest obtain an attorney, while noting that Mr. Vest has the right to proceed without one. Commissioner Taylor states that the Commission will prepare written correspondence and instructions regarding the next steps in the process.

Counsel Michael Taylor states that the bond Mr. Vest was required to furnish relates only to the recount. Because the recount will not proceed, counsel states that the bond should be refunded to Mr. Vest. The Clerk's Office is directed to refund the money.

Commissioner Taylor asks counsel Michael Taylor to prepare findings with Commissioner Taylor's and Commissioner Miller's signatures.

Cancel Recount – Commissioner Taylor motions to cancel the recount scheduled for Friday and to notify the other candidates in the same manner they were notified of the recount. Commissioner Miller seconds. Commissioner Taylor votes aye. Commissioner Miller votes aye. Commissioner Brenemen abstains. Motion passes.

The Clerk's Office is directed to prepare the appropriate notices. Commissioner Taylor states that she will notify the Sheriff that service will be needed before Friday.

The meeting adjourns at approximately 9:32 a.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
June 10, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), ALLISON RAE TAYLOR, CHUCK MILLER

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION - ALL 2026 MINUTES (CLICK TO RETURN TO THE TOP)

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 10th day of June, 2026.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Phil Tissue leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds – No exonerations, orders to combine or divide land, or refunds are presented.

Vouchers and Invoices – Commissioner Taylor states that she has questions regarding several vouchers and invoices, including office supplies she does not believe should be approved, a gaming computer purchase and peripherals that require additional information, and additional computer-related purchases submitted by three different fire departments. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve all vouchers and invoices with the exception of the Walmart receipt submitted by Fayetteville, the computer purchase submitted by Armstrong Creek, the computer purchase submitted by Ansted, and a large gear purchase submitted by Montgomery, pending additional review. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Payroll – Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve payroll for June 12, 2026. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meeting Minutes – No action is taken.

Estate Settlements - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the estate settlements as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Certify State Election Results – Commissioner Taylor motions to certify the state election results. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Budget Revision – The Commission reviews the budget revision. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the budget revision. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Right of Way Abandonment Request: Lorenzo and Brenda Loving – Attorney Phil Tissue appears on behalf of Lorenzo and Brenda Loving regarding their request to abandon small unused portions of Collins Hill Road and McHale Avenue in the community of Glen Jean. Mr. Tissue states that the Lovings own Lots 101, 102, and 104 and that the requested abandonments involve unused portions

of roadways shown on a subdivision map. Mr. Tissue explains that one unused portion is owned on both sides by his clients except for a small portion owned by Richard Stevens, who is present and does not object. He further states that a very small portion involving McHale Avenue is adjacent to property owned by Vanderbilt Mortgage, which was notified and did not respond.

Mr. Tissue states that the portions requested for abandonment have not been used since the subdivision map was developed, likely in the 1940s, and that his clients have mowed and maintained the grass on both sides of the unused areas for at least ten years. Mr. Tissue states that, out of an abundance of caution, every person bordering Collins Hill Road was notified, and no objections were received. Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Anthony Ciliberti states that the issue previously identified has been corrected. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the abandonment. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Hazard Mitigation Leases – Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the Hazard Mitigation Leases. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Region IV ARPA Fund Drawdown #2 – Cassandra Lawson presents Resolution Number 3 for the recreation project involving trail work at Fayette County Park and completion of the Needleseye Trailhead. Ms. Lawson states that the request is in the amount of $12,651.88 from the Fayette County Commission's contribution to the project. She explains that the invoice is from Terradon, the consulting engineer, for preliminary design, final design, permitting, project administration, plans, and specifications.

Ms. Lawson clarifies that Region IV is handling grant administration, while the project administration listed on the invoice refers to Terradon's internal project administration. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the drawdown. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Appalachian Power Easement and Right of Way on Park Property – Park Director Brian Good explains the Appalachian Power easement request for park property. Mr. Good states that the work is part of the next phase of electrical improvements at the park and will allow power to be split to the upper bathhouses and cabins separately from the recreational hall. Discussion includes the location of the existing lines, access to the work area, and whether damage to grass or property is anticipated. Mr. Good states that the work will use existing access and should not create an issue. Assistant Prosecuting Attorney Anthony Ciliberti states that the language of the easement is

acceptable. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the Appalachian Power easement and right of way on park property. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Armstrong PSD Board Reappointment Request – The Commission discusses the Armstrong PSD Board request to reappoint Benny Estep. Commissioner Taylor motions to reappoint Mr. Estep to the Armstrong PSD Board. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Judge Fast Reimbursement Request – Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the jury expense and standing desk reimbursement request for Judge Fast. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

WV Corp Cover Sheet for Signature – The Commission reviews the WV Corp cover sheet accepting coverage for the next fiscal year. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the WV Corp cover sheet. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Fund Transfers for General School, Worthless Check, and Magistrate Fund – The Commission reviews end-of-year fund transfers for the General School, Worthless Check, and Magistrate funds. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the end-of-year fund transfers. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Oak Hill Volunteer Fire Department Expenses – The Commission discusses Oak Hill Volunteer Fire Department expenses. Commissioner Taylor states that the Commission previously determined it would not pay fire association fees. She also states that U.S. Cellular bills, office supplies, Staples expenses, Nicholas Printing stationery expenses, and certain Amazon purchases, including a clock, will be excluded. Commissioner Taylor also states that an invoice is needed for the October 2025 State Electric expense in the amount of $220.99.

Commissioner Taylor asks about a “box alarm” expense. Representatives state they will research the item and provide additional information. Commissioner Taylor also asks about Walmart tarps. Oak Hill Volunteer Fire Department Chief Tim Richardson explains that tarps are used during residential structure fires to cover furniture, appliances, and other items in an attempt to protect homeowners’ property from water damage.

Chief Richardson states that the department and City have gone through transitions involving several city managers, treasurers,

and clerks, but that the process is now being improved with Valerie Vaughn and Brooke Lines. Commissioner Brenemen states that Tyler is doing a good job and that he understands the challenges created by the transitions.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the Oak Hill Volunteer Fire Department expenses, given the extraordinary circumstances involving City of Oak Hill city manager and accounting transitions during the relevant timeframe, with the exceptions she identified and marked on the vouchers. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Election Contest Scheduling and E-Poll Book Purchase – County Clerk Michelle Holly discusses the proposed purchase of electronic poll books. Ms. Holly explains that electronic poll books allow voters to sign in through the system and print a barcode identifying the proper ballot style based on the voter's precinct and party. She states that electronic poll books have reduced errors during early voting and would help eliminate human error regarding party selection during primary elections.

Ms. Holly explains that the system would allow her to obtain voter history data in real time if connected to the internet, but clarifies that only voter history data, which is public record, would be transmitted. She states that votes themselves would not go through the internet. Discussion includes whether the system would identify voters who attempt to vote in more than one precinct and how provisional ballots would be handled.

Ms. Holly states that the estimated cost is approximately $100,000 and that the expected lifespan is approximately six to ten years. She explains that Help America Vote Act funds may be available and that Fayette County may apply for reimbursement of up to 85 percent of the cost. She states that West Virginia has been allocated approximately $800,000 in HAVA funds and that the grant timeline begins June 15, 2026. Ms. Holly states that her goal is to have the electronic poll books in place before the general election and that funds are included in next year's budget.

Commissioner Taylor states that the irregularities in the primary election occurred because the existing system involved voters receiving a blank ballot and then being walked to the machine, where a poll worker selected the appropriate primary ballot. She states that electronic poll books should eliminate that problem because the voter's precinct and party would be identified when the voter checks in.

Commissioner Taylor motions to ask the County Clerk to purchase the electronic poll book technology and apply for grant reimbursement. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Executive Session – The Commission enters executive session at 9:32 a.m. for legal advice regarding the REAP demolition contractor, legal and personnel matters regarding HB 5564 relating to deputy vacation carryover, personnel matters regarding Animal Control Officer and shelter employee changes, legal advice regarding the PSD litigation update, and legal advice regarding election contest scheduling.

The Commission returns from executive session. No decisions are made. Commissioner Brenemen states for the record that he left during the discussion concerning the election.

REAP Demolition Contractor – No action is required.

HB 5564 Relating to Deputy Vacation Carryover – Commissioner Taylor motions to allow the 45-day minimum vacation carryover for the time being and to leave the door open for Sheriff Fridley to make a request for additional carryover if he believes it is important. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Animal Control Officer and Shelter Employee Changes – County Administrator Ruth Lanier recommends personnel changes at the animal shelter. Ms. Lanier recommends making Maria Boles the Director of the Animal Shelter at a salary of $42,000. Ms. Lanier also recommends making Tori Treadway the Animal Welfare Coordinator at a salary of $32,000. Ms. Lanier states that Bruce Marshall has been hired as an Animal Control Officer. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the changes recommended by the County Administrator. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

PSD Litigation Update – The Commission receives an update during executive session. No action is taken.

Election Contest Scheduling – Commissioner Taylor states that the Commission will issue one order incorporating the prior hearing and the current hearing so that the findings and next steps are included in one document. Commissioner Taylor states that the order will include findings that Mr. Vest made a proper waiver of the recount and filed a proper election contest request.

Commissioner Taylor states that on or before June 17, 2026, Mr. Vest shall file a written statement setting forth with specificity the grounds for his contest, the factual allegations supporting it, the legal basis for the relief sought, the relief sought, and the names of any witnesses known at that time. Commissioner Taylor states that Mr. Vest has already filed a written statement containing much of that information, but may amend it by the deadline.

Commissioner Taylor states that on or before June 24, 2026, any contestee or interested party, including other individuals affected by the election contest, shall file a written response to Mr. Vest's filing. The parties shall exchange witness lists and exhibits no later than July 1, 2026.

Commissioner Taylor states that the evidentiary hearing will be held on July 8, 2026, at 1:00 p.m. in the Fayette County Courthouse Commission Chambers. She states that the hearing will be a formal court hearing, witnesses will be under oath, and any Commission decision appealed afterward will be appealed to Circuit Court.

Commissioner Taylor motions to set the dates and sign the order. Commissioner Miller seconds. Commissioner Taylor states that Commissioner Brenemen will not attend the evidentiary hearing or participate in the matter and has not participated in the prior decisions related to the election contest. Commissioner Taylor and Commissioner Miller vote aye. Motion passes.

The original order will be filed with the County Clerk, and copies will be prepared as needed.

The meeting adjourns at approximately 11:34 a.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
June 24, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President) and CHUCK MILLER
VIA ZOOM: ALLISON RAE TAYLOR

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 24th day of June, 2026.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the meeting to order at 9:01 a.m.

Sheriff Jess McMullen leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds – Assessor Tara Tyree presents the following exonerations: Jeremy Bryant, $162.28; Joey W. and Vivian F. Donelow, $150.71; Kenneth Wayne Nutter, Jr., $652.38; Alexis Bess, $18.28; Landon L. Loving, Jr., $112.98 and $112.98; Sharon Denise Harper, $450.56; Kahra F. Johns, $292.24; Jennifer M. Anderson, $106.70; Haley Gillman, $400.14; Robert L. Brownfield III, $1,547.62; Chastity Yates, $48.42, $48.42, $156.78 and $119.50; Derrick Wayne & Erin Lewis, $813.14; Ronnie & Susan Estep, $194.10. Commissioner Miller motions to approve as presented. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Land Books – Assessor Tara Tyree presents the land books and explains that the books contain the parcels and tax bills from the county system, are used for property and deed searches, and must be delivered to the appropriate offices by July 1. Ms. Tyree states that the Commissioners need to sign the last page of each book. Commissioner Taylor motions to sign the land books. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices – The Commission reviews vouchers and invoices. Commissioner Taylor states that she remains concerned about the purchase of a computer submitted by Chief Estep and about an E-ZPass expense submitted by another fire department. Discussion includes whether E-ZPass expenses have been paid previously and whether first responders should be required to pay tolls when responding to emergencies or traveling for public safety purposes. Commissioner Brenemen requests that a letter regarding tolls for first responders be placed on a future agenda. Commissioner Taylor withdraws the E-ZPass exception but maintains her concern regarding the computer purchase. Commissioner Miller states that he also has a concern because the item appears to be a gaming computer. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the vouchers and invoices with the exception of the computer expense. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Montgomery Volunteer Fire Department Bunker Gear – The Commission discusses bunker gear for Montgomery Volunteer Fire Department that was not approved at the prior meeting because Commissioner Taylor did not know at that time that it was included in the department's budget. Commissioner Taylor states that the bunker gear should have been approved with the motion she made at the prior meeting because it was budgeted.

Payroll – Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve payroll for June 26, 2026. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meeting Minutes – No action is taken. Commissioner Taylor states that the minutes will be addressed at the next meeting.

Estate Settlements - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the estate settlements as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

AML Grant Application for Fayette County Park – County Administrator Ruth Lanier states that the Abandoned Mine Lands grant application is open and that the Commission needs to decide whether to apply, what aspect of the park project to support, and whether to contribute matching funds. Park Director Brian Good discusses the pool and splash pad options.

Commissioner Taylor states that she is not in favor of pursuing another pool because of lifeguard, maintenance, and long-term staffing concerns, but supports the splash pad concept. Mr. Good states that a splash pad would have a longer season, require less maintenance, not require lifeguards, and could be maintained by existing park staff. He states that the former pool site would provide a good location because water and related infrastructure are already present, though the site should be cleared and approached with a clean concept.

Commissioner Brenemen discusses the history of the pool, including prior Land and Water Conservation Fund involvement, the need for National Park Service approval for any changes, the void under the existing pool, and the significant cost of replacing the pool. Commissioner Brenemen states that he supports pursuing a splash pad as a first phase, with the possibility of a later phase involving a smaller water feature that would not require lifeguards. Commissioner Miller agrees that staffing a pool would be difficult and that a splash pad is the more cost-effective option. Commissioner Taylor asks about available matching funds. Ms. Lanier states that coal reallocated funds may be used for infrastructure, economic development, and recreational projects. Commissioner Brenemen motions to apply for the AML grant with a $50,000 match. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Bid Opening: Fire Training Center – Commissioner Taylor motions to ratify Commissioner Brenemen’s instruction to rebid the Fire Training Center project because the project was originally bid with the understanding that prevailing wages applied, which is

no longer the case. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

The Commission opens three bids for the Fire Training Center project: Dan Hill Construction, $1,289,900; Gonday Enterprises LLC, $1,430,000; and Accelerated Construction, $1,331,750.

Commissioner Taylor initially motions to award the contract to Dan Hill Construction based on the lowest bid, pending engineer review and confirmation that the bid meets all criteria. Commissioner Miller seconds. Discussion follows regarding the base bid and alternates. A representative from New River explains that the bid will be reviewed and certified based on the configuration of alternates that meets the county's budget, including alternate forms of construction such as the base fire station, plumbing work, and the training facility. Commissioner Taylor states that the Commission should wait to award the bid until the engineer reviews the bids and advises the County which company won the bid under the applicable criteria. The representative states that the bids can be certified within a couple of days. Commissioner Taylor withdraws her motion. The matter will be placed on the July 8, 2026, agenda.

Bid Opening: CFIA CY 23 Grant, Circuit Clerk Addition Masonry Project – The Commission opens one bid from Keystone Waterproofing Inc. for all labor and materials in the amount of $100,942. Discussion includes the CFIA grant share of $95,200, the county match of $23,800, and the total project budget of $119,000. Commissioner Taylor motions to award the project to Keystone Waterproofing Inc. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Danese Detachment Move – Sheriff Jess McMullen provides an update regarding the possible move of the Danese detachment from its current location in the fire department building to the Danese Sports Complex, located in the former Danese Elementary school building. Sheriff McMullen states that the current office has been used for many years, is in poor condition, and does not have handicap access. He states that the Danese Sports Complex has been renovated for community and youth sports use and that three office spaces have been prepared for the Sheriff's Department. Sheriff McMullen states that the proposed location would not require rent, other than costs such as electricity and internet, and may save money while improving accessibility and community presence. Commissioner Brenemen states that he believes it would be a good move, and Commissioner Miller states that it would be great for the community. Sheriff McMullen

states that he will continue to keep the Commission updated. No action is taken.

Mount Hope Volunteer Fire Department Expenditure Request – Chief Powell of the Mount Hope Volunteer Fire Department appears regarding an expenditure request for a proposed 80-by-40 garage and concrete pad to house apparatus, training props, and overflow equipment. He states that the department has run out of room, that some vehicles and equipment are currently outside in the weather, and that the new garage would be located behind the fire station on property acquired from the City of Mount Hope and already leveled. Chief Powell states that bids were obtained from three companies for the building and three companies for the concrete work. Discussion includes a low building bid of $69,430 and a total project cost of $112,529.

Commissioner Brenemen states that after the end of the fiscal year, the County can determine how much money remains in the department's budget and whether any of those funds may be applied to the project. The representatives state that the bids are good for approximately 90 days and were obtained approximately 60 days earlier. Commissioner Taylor asks whether the project is included in the department's budget, and Chief Powell states that it is not. Commissioner Taylor states that the decision should be postponed until Ms. Lanier completes the year-end calculations. Commissioner Brenemen states that the item should be addressed at the second meeting in July.

Commissioner Taylor motions to postpone the item to the second meeting in July. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Executive Session – The Commission enters executive session at 9:54 a.m. for legal advice and information concerning the Public Service Commission and Kanawha Falls Public Service District and for personnel advice regarding the part-time County Clerk position. The Commission returns from executive session at 11:58 a.m. No decisions are made.

County Clerk Part-Time Hire Request – The Commission discusses the County Clerk's request to hire a part-time clerk. Commissioner Miller motions to approve the part-time hire. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Public Service Commission Investigation Regarding Kanawha Falls Public Service District – Attorney Michael Taylor provides an update regarding Kanawha Falls Public Service District. Mr. Taylor states that the West Virginia Department of Environmental

Protection previously initiated an action in Fayette County Circuit Court alleging environmental violations related to the operations of Kanawha Falls Public Service District. He further states that Public Service Commission staff subsequently filed allegations that Kanawha Falls Public Service District is unable or unwilling to adequately serve its customers, has actually or effectively been abandoned, or has management that is grossly and willfully inefficient, irresponsible, or unresponsive to customer needs. Mr. Taylor states that PSC staff requested that Kanawha Falls Public Service District be placed into receivership, with West Virginia American Water overseeing the receivership and operating the district, and also sought the removal of one board member alleged to no longer reside in the district.

Mr. Taylor states that the Public Service Commission has entered an order directing staff to file an action in Fayette County Circuit Court to effectuate the receivership. Mr. Taylor states that, while the matters remain allegations to be litigated, the allegations are serious and warrant action by the County Commission. Mr. Taylor recommends that the Commission open an investigation into Kanawha Falls Public Service District related to the allegations in the filings and take any and all actions necessary within the Commission's statutory authority.

Commissioner Brenemen motions to open an investigation into Kanawha Falls Public Service District related to the allegations raised in the filings and to take any and all actions necessary as a result of the investigation within the Commission's statutory authority. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Spay/Neuter Grant Invoice Reimbursement – County Administrator Ruth Lanier states that the spay/neuter grant requires Commissioner Brenemen's signature on voucher invoices submitted for reimbursement. Commissioner Taylor motions to authorize Commissioner Brenemen to sign the spay/neuter voucher invoices when ready. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Closure of URA Bank Accounts – County Administrator Ruth Lanier states that the remaining Urban Renewal Authority bank accounts need to be closed following the transfer of URA matters to the County and that some funds may be restricted and need to be moved into the proper accounts. Commissioner Taylor motions to close the accounts and empower counsel and Ms. Lanier to work out the details and logistics of the closure. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

GST Contract – County Administrator Ruth Lanier states that the current GST contract expires June 30, 2026, and requests approval to move forward for another six months. Thomas Baker, Director of Information Technology for the City of Montgomery and owner of AMG Network Hosting, states that his company is located in Montgomery, provides IT support, works with several municipalities and county commissions, and would be interested in submitting a proposal in the future. Commissioner Brenemen states that the current action is a continuation of the prior bid and that the contract was initially signed for only six months because of issues that had been identified. He states that AMG Network Hosting is welcome to compete when the service is bid again for the next fiscal year. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the GST contract for another six months. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Annual PSD Board Member Letters to Lisa Coleman of the Public Service Commission of WV and Kris Warner, Secretary of State – Commissioner Brenemen states that the County must submit information regarding the public service districts that operate in the county and are not under a municipality, including White Oak PSD, Page-Kincaid PSD, New Haven PSD, Kanawha Falls PSD, Valley River PSD, Danese PSD, and Armstrong PSD. Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the list. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision. Commissioner Taylor authorizes her name to be stamped on the document and on any other documents requiring her signature for items approved during the meeting.

Greenbrier Environmental Contract – County Administrator Ruth Lanier presents the Greenbrier Environmental contract for recreation and economic development grant consulting beginning July 1, 2026. Ms. Lanier states that the company is Matt Ford's company and has worked on significant grants, including AML and rail trail matters. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the contract. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Fire Training Center Bidding Process – The Commission states that the Fire Training Center bidding process was addressed earlier during the bid opening, including the need for fire department representatives to be included in substantive meetings related to the project. No further action is taken.

Annual Budget Statement – The Commission reviews the annual budget statement required to be filed. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the annual budget statement. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Fayette County Commission Committee Assignments – The Commission discusses committee assignments following the passing of Commissioner Fernett. Commissioner Taylor motions that Commissioner Miller take all of Commissioner Fernett's appointments with the exception of the Farmland Protection Board. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions that Commissioner Brenemen return to the Farmland Protection Board and that Commissioner Miller be appointed to the Land Reuse Agency. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Discussion includes Commissioner Miller serving on the Land Reuse Agency, Parks and Recreation, the LEO Board, and the other appointments formerly held by Commissioner Fernett, except as otherwise stated.

AARP Flagship Grant Acceptance – Park Director Brian Good states that the County has been awarded an AARP grant of just under $5,000 for supplies to add two additional docks on the main pond for the fishing area. Mr. Good states that the County will provide the labor to build the docks, that the existing dock is ADA accessible, and that the additional docks will support ADA-accessible fishing and the AARP population. Mr. Good also discusses the pond's use, including DNR support, fish stocking, licensing, signage, and regulations. Commissioner Taylor motions to accept the grant. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner-Elect Barry Crist – Commissioner Brenemen welcomes Commissioner-elect Barry Crist to the meeting. Mr. Crist states that he is glad to be present and looks forward to getting started.

The meeting adjourns at approximately 12:03 p.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
July 8, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), ALLISON RAE TAYLOR, and CHUCK MILLER

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 8th day of July, 2026.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Jessie Parker from New River Engineers leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds – Assessor Tara Tyree presents the following exonerations: Alex Hansen & Meghan Braley, $359.70; Pauley Harmon Hospitality, LLC, $2,500.00; Kenneth E. & Patsy A. Sullivan, $515.34; Marjorie Lou & Joseph R. Davis, $251.12; Tammy Hendricks-Korniotes, $255.94; Fashionaire Beauty Shop, $51.48; Tammy & Marrk Vest, $663.34; Retrorest Video Games & Collectibles, $255.44; Jeffrey S. Davis, $515.46; Elmer Lee Callaway, $300.82; Alexis Bess, $18.28; Monarch Auto Group, Inc., $820.70; Jeremy Bryant, $168.53; Joey W. & Vivian F. Donelow, $132.98; Todd S. & Robin J. Taylor, $752.24; William Edward & Deanna Magee Taylor, $181.00; Danny W. Adkins et al, $912.32; Kimberly White, $122.30; Clinton O. & Barbara E. Mcguire, $191.06; Alex Hansen & Meghan Braley, $56.88; Kiraly-Qualls House, LLC, $100.00; Matthew Thomas Jones, $402.32; Jerry Lee & Rebecca Ann Auxier, $7,044.08. Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the exonerations as presented. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Ms. Tyree presents an order to combine for Misty Tincher in Plateau District. The petition requests that three Class 2 parcels — Surf 1 Wolf Creek, .42 Ac Surf near Summerlee, and .28 Ac Surf near Summerlee — be consolidated to appear on the 2027 land book as Surf 1 Wolf Creek, including 13D 1-2. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the order to combine. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices – The Commission initially skips vouchers and invoices and returns to the matter after executive session. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve all vouchers and invoices, with the exception of print cartridges and mailbox fees for Nuttall in the amounts of $106.00 and $45.02 because the receipts are not legible, and included computer expenses for Armstrong Creek VFD. Commissioner Taylor states that Nuttall will need to resubmit those receipts. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Payroll – Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve payroll for July 10, 2026. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meeting Minutes – Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the minutes for May 22, 2026; May 26, 2026 special meeting; June 10,

2026; and June 24, 2026. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Estate Settlements - Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the estate settlements as presented. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Updated MOU with Oak Hill Volunteer Fire Department for Truck Purchase – The Commission discusses an updated memorandum of understanding with Oak Hill Volunteer Fire Department for a fire truck purchase. Attorney Michael Taylor explains that the amendment does not change the substance of the previously approved MOU, but adds technical details requested by the bank, including more specific references to Oak Hill Volunteer Fire Department and the fire levy funding amount. Commissioner Taylor states that she has a few minor changes. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the modified MOU, with amendments and no objections from the Commission. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

New Employees – The Commission discusses new hires for 911 and the Animal Shelter. Commissioner Taylor motions to ratify the 911 hires of Kaitlyn N. Stanley and Macalah J. Leffler. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision. Commissioner Taylor motions to ratify the Animal Shelter hires of Emily Willis and Grayce Rose. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Letter to Legislature Regarding Toll Fees – The Commission discusses a draft letter regarding toll fees. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the letter in concept, with edits to be made. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Region IV ARPA Drawdown Request – A representative from Region IV appears by Zoom regarding Resolution Number 4 for the Fayette County Soft Surface Trail Project. The request includes invoicing from Terradon in the amount of $17,827.00, as well as administration invoicing for April and May from Region IV totaling $1,344.60, for a combined drawdown request of $19,171.60 from the Fayette County Commission’s ARPA contribution. Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the grant drawdown. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

National Park Service Support Letter for Land Purchase – The Commission discusses a request for a support letter from the National Park Service related to a land purchase in the Gauley River area. Commissioner Brenemen states that the Commission heard the same request previously and that prior questions

regarding passes had been clarified. Commissioner Brenemen motions to send a support letter for the purchase. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Coal Severance Budget Revision – The Commission discusses a coal severance budget revision. Commissioner Brenemen states that the revision is expected to increase the budget by approximately $38,000 once the accounts are closed out. Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve submitting the budget revision and to authorize his signature. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Federal Court Case Regarding Injection Well – Commissioner Taylor states that, under advice of counsel, she motions that the Commission agree to the dismissal of the federal court case regarding the injection well. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Fire Training Center Bid Award – Jessie Parker of New River Engineers appears before the Commission regarding the Fire Training Center bid award. Mr. Parker states that he has the certified bid tab from the June 24 bid opening and needs clarification from the Commission regarding the amount of funding allocated for the project.

Mr. Parker states that the total bid from Dan Hill Construction for all items is $2,070,423. He states that the project previously came in over budget when bid in May and was rebid with additive alternates so the project could be matched to available funding. Mr. Parker states that he believes the Commission previously allocated approximately $1.3 million for the project at the December 10, 2025 meeting but needs to confirm the available amount before making a professional recommendation.

Mr. Parker states that the base bid for the fire station is $862,000. He states that the base bid with rough-in plumbing would be approximately $900,000. He further states that the base bid, rough-in plumbing, and electrical additive alternate would total $1,007,900. Mr. Parker states that if architectural and engineering fees are reduced and reallocated back into the project, he believes approximately $1,045,000 could be allocated toward construction of this phase.

Discussion includes whether the fire station would include heat, whether mechanical work is included in the recommended alternates, the difference between the fire station and the training center portions of the project, and the total amount

needed to complete additional phases. A representative of the Firefighters Association states by Zoom that the Association recommends moving forward with phases one and two, if funding is available, and eliminating phase three. Discussion includes the prior bid amount, the current total of $2,070,423, the possibility of supplementing the project, and whether the fire station or training center should take priority if the project must be split.

Commissioner Taylor states that the Commission will need time to take the matter under consideration and that the Commission should have a better idea around July 22, 2026, whether the project can be supplemented and by how much. Commissioner Taylor motions to postpone the decision until the next meeting on July 22, 2026. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

County Clerk Requests – County Clerk Michelle Holly appears before the Commission regarding an MOU with the Town of Pax for elections and a petty cash fund and box for a part-time employee.

> **MOU with the Town of Pax for Elections –** Ms. Holly states that the Town of Pax will go onto the County's ballot in the fall and that an MOU is needed to outline responsibilities. She states that the Commission would serve as the Board of Canvassers, that the County will publish sample ballots, and that Pax would be responsible for separate publication costs for items such as a levy or other question if needed. Ms. Holly states that state law allows the County to charge up to the municipality's per capita share of the election and that Pax currently has 94 residents, which would calculate to approximately $440, though the County has previously charged actual cost, which would likely be closer to $150. Attorney Anthony Ciliberti states that he does not see any issues with the MOU and that it is similar to MOUs used with other municipalities. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the MOU. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.
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> **Petty Cash Fund and Box for Clerk Employee –** Ms. Holly states that a part-time employee working in the office needs her own petty cash box in order to properly handle accounting procedures. Ms. Holly requests $100 to place in the box as the original amount. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the petty cash fund and box. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Executive Session – Commissioner Taylor motions to enter executive session to discuss the Prosecuting Attorney's proposal to use asset forfeiture funds for pay raises for two employees as a personnel matter, Kanawha Falls PSD legal fees for legal advice, and the request for waiver of building permit fee for legal advice. The Commission enters executive session at 9:32 a.m. The Commission returns from executive session at 10:38 a.m. No decisions are made in executive session.

Prosecuting Attorney Proposal to Use Asset Forfeiture Funds for Pay Raises for Two Employees – Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the Prosecuting Attorney's proposal to use asset forfeiture funds for pay raises. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Kanawha Falls PSD Legal Fees – The Commission discusses legal fees for Kanawha Falls Public Service District. Commissioner Taylor states that the Commission has precedent in paying legal fees for public service districts affected by the West Virginia American Water takeover. Attorney Michael Taylor states that, to the extent the asset purchase agreement goes through with debt outstanding, that debt would come out of the sales price, so the matter may be a "pay it now or pay it later" issue if Kanawha Falls PSD is not financially secure enough to pay it.

Discussion includes the purpose of legal representation related to the asset purchase agreement and Public Service Commission matters. Commissioner Taylor states that the payment is not an invitation for all counsel for PSDs to request fees, but is specific to PSDs that are subject to the asset purchase agreement with West Virginia American Water and that have demonstrated a distressed or failing utility.
Commissioner Taylor motions that the Commission pay Todd Swanson $25,236.33 in back legal fees covering through the end of June, and a total of $35,000 to include a retainer to assist Kanawha Falls PSD with facilitating and signing the asset purchase agreement. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Request for Waiver of Building Permit Fee – Commissioner Taylor motions to decline the request to waive the building permit fee, stating that the only precedent the Commission has set for waiving fees was during a natural disaster and that this issue involves private parties and insurance. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

The meeting adjourns at approximately 10:42 a.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION - ALL 2026 MINUTES (CLICK TO RETURN TO THE TOP)

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
July 22, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), ALLISON RAE TAYLOR, and CHUCK MILLER

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 22nd day of July, 2026.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the meeting to order at 8:59 a.m.

Mayor Pridemore, Town of Ansted, leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Storm Response – Commissioner Brenemen notes that recent storms caused water to enter the courthouse annex and thanks the Fayetteville Fire Department and County maintenance staff for their assistance, which allowed the offices to open that morning.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds – Assessor Tara Tyree presents the following exonerations: Shelly R. Johnson, $1,083.44; Jennifer Lynn Tucker, $77.86, $74.04, and $73.58; Larisa Ann Hay Proulx, $82.54; Denver Brenton Prather, $330.10; Brian K. & Brandie Lively, $1,472.96; MBVT, $1,634.82; Russell Blair Robinson II, $40.34, $40.34, and 58.02; Vickie L. Smith, $70.40 and $74.30; Shane Williams, $70.86; Jonathan McNabb, $57.54, $57.04, $53.02, $60.72, $167.10, and $124.40; Dillia A. Payne, $87.00, $87.00, $87.00, $91.78, $91.28, and $96.60; Linda Wriston, $159.56, $79.78, $79.78, $84.32, $63.88, and $67.94; Donald E. & Lucy M. Jones, $286.70, $286.70, $286.70, $302.84, $299.36, and $265.94. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the exonerations as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices – Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the vouchers and invoices as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Payroll – Commissioner Taylor motions to approve payroll for July 24, 2026. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meeting Minutes – Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the prior meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Estate Settlements - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the estate settlements as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Fiduciary Commissioner Report Recommendation and Order for the Estate of James Alan Neal II – The Commission reviews the Fiduciary Commissioner's recommendation regarding the appointment of an administrator for the estate. Discussion includes the proposed administrator's relationship to and guardianship of the decedent's children and whether a conflict of interest exists. The Commission finds no reason to question the Fiduciary Commissioner's determination. Commissioner Taylor motions to accept the Fiduciary Commissioner's recommendation. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Petition for Elective Share: Estate of Frank Armstrong – The Commission discusses a petition for elective share and the related matter pending in circuit court. Commissioner Taylor motions to stay the proceeding in the Estate of Frank Armstrong pending disposition by the circuit court. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Region IV Request for ARPA Fund Reallocation – The Commission discusses a request to reallocate ARPA funds among eligible expenses for the Meadow Bridge project so the funds may be expended by the end of the year. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the reallocation. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Battery Purchase Request for 911 Center – Tonja McMullen from the 911 Center requests approval to purchase replacement batteries for the Center's uninterruptible power supply units. She explains that the units are essential to maintaining dispatch operations during power outages, that the batteries were last replaced approximately four years ago, and that the purchase is included in the budget. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the purchase. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

State Auditor's Salary Schedule for Signature – Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the State Auditor's salary schedule for elected officials. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Prosecuting Attorney Request for Hire – Prosecuting Attorney Anthony Ciliberti requests approval to hire an attorney to fill a vacancy that has existed for approximately three and one-half months. He states that the candidate has approximately one and

one-half years of legal experience, prior internship experience with a prosecuting attorney's office, and experience handling magistrate court matters. The candidate is expected to begin work on July 27, 2026. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the hire. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Solid Waste Authority Board Member Appointment – Commissioner Taylor motions to reappoint Steven Davis to the Solid Waste Authority Board. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

EMPG Grant Documents for Signature – The Commission is advised that the EMPG grant was previously approved and awarded and that the related equipment-purchase documents require signatures. The Commissioners sign the documents. No additional action is required.

Letter to Paislee Persinger Congratulating Her on STEM Academy Acceptance – The Commission discusses a letter congratulating Paislee Persinger on her acceptance into the Appalachian Regional Commission STEM Academy at Oak Ridge National Laboratory. The Commission notes that the program is prestigious and highly competitive. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the letter. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Fayette County Goes Purple Proclamation – The Commission considers a proclamation recognizing September as National Recovery Month each year in Fayette County. Discussion includes the effects of addiction in the county, the importance of supporting people in recovery, and encouraging those in recovery to reenter the workforce and contribute to the community.

Commissioner Taylor motions to designate September of each year as National Recovery Month in Fayette County and to partner with community organizations to support recovery. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meadow River Rail Trail Mowing Agreement – The Commission discusses the mowing agreement for the Meadow River Rail Trail, including the bid process and shared costs. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the agreement. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

General County Budget Revision – Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the general county budget revision as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION - ALL 2026 MINUTES (CLICK TO RETURN TO THE TOP)

Fire Training Center Bid Award – Jessie Parker of New River Engineers appears before the Commission regarding the Fire Training Center project. Mr. Parker presents the notice of award and funding scenarios and explains that the amount needed to complete Station 18, including the training-center shell with stubbed-out piping, is $1,253,750. The County budgeted $1.2 million for the project, leaving a shortfall of $53,750. Adding the water-line alternate of $67,609 brings the additional amount needed to $121,359. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve an additional $121,359 to cover the shortfall and water-line installation. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Mr. Parker states that the project contract is with the Firefighters Association, which will authorize the notice of award. The Commission states that funding for the remainder of the full project is not available at this time but may be reconsidered in the next fiscal year.

The meeting adjourns at approximately 9:20 a.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
August 5, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), ALLISON RAE TAYLOR, and CHUCK MILLER

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 5th day of August, 2026.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the meeting to order at 8:59 a.m.

Attorney Michael Taylor leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds - Assessor Tara Tyree presents exonerations, orders to combine or divide land, and refunds.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the orders to combine and divide land as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the refunds as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Assessor Tara Tyree presents the following exonerations: Junnie L. Vanness, $78.78; Brian Michael Greenwood & Tina Marie Angelichio, $574.14; Charles G. & Melanie A. Swisher, $1,435.12; Gregory & Beth Gill, $,995.32; Drema Darlene Price, $306.68; Newman Tractor, LLC, $3,911.54; Kevin C. & Marlo R. Hornsby, $511.31; Charles & Rebecca Evans, $1,543.44; Samuel Austin & Isabella Marie Criss, $1,941.28; Harold Wayne & Sharon K. Conner, $459.52; Blain A. & Rita McClanahan, $652.50; Ronald R. & Carolyn S. Weaver, $957.04; Bryan D. Coleman, et al., $648.00; Peggy S. Carter, $702.72; Marco R. Bragg, $211.38; Derryl R. Jinte & Scotty E. Foster, $330.98; Samantha A. Williams, $66.88; Terry L. & Kathy A. Damron, $138.35; Rebecca M. Hamilton, $490.53; Philip Calhoun, $37.66 and $18.82; Larisa Ann Hay Proulx, $213.16, $213.16, $213.14, $224.90, and $101.30; Randy Allen & Cynthia K. Pauley, $2,191.44; Jeffery Fannin, $326.40; Sherri L. Scarbrough, $338.80 and $293.02; Nels V. Olsen, $483.46; Deborah L. Fisher, $920.04; Jo Ann Davis, $499.22; Phillip R. Davis, $0.68 and $0.40; Dwight D. Neff, $485.76; Janie A. Atkins, $717.00; Ivan Boles, $405.42. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the exonerations as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the vouchers and invoices as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Payroll - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve payroll for August 7, 2026. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meeting Minutes - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the July 22, 2026, meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Estate Settlements - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the estate settlements as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Letter Congratulating Fayco Lumber - The Commission considers a letter congratulating Fayco Lumber for its years in operation. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the letter. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Mount Hope Volunteer Fire Department Expenditure Request – Fire Chief Tyrone Powell discusses a request for approval **of** an expenditure totaling $112,525 for a building to house and protect fire equipment. The Commission discusses the department's prior budgeting for the project, its responsible

management of levy funds, the number of calls it serves, and the need to protect equipment previously purchased through the fire levy. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the expenditure. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision. Commissioner Brenemen emphasizes that approval of this request does not guarantee approval of future requests and that departments should consult the Commission, obtain bids, and demonstrate a clear need before incurring project expenses.

Greg Fernett Memorial Court - The Commission discusses honoring late Commissioner Greg Fernett by naming the court in the Memorial Building for him in recognition of his service to Fayette County, his support of the Memorial Building, and his commitment to youth athletics. The Commission plans to install a plaque or other notation and may add a court-floor designation when the floor is next refinished. A dedication ceremony may be held in conjunction with relighting the memorial flame. Commissioner Taylor motions to name and dedicate the court in honor of late Commissioner Greg Fernett. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Land Reuse Agency Board Member Appointment - The Commission considers the seat vacated by the former Executive Director of the New River Gorge Regional Development Authority. Commissioner Taylor motions to appoint Andy Davis on an interim basis until a new NRGRDA Executive Director is hired. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

New Haven Public Service District Board Member Appointment - The Commission considers two applicants and discusses whether a person under age 18 may legally serve on the board. Commissioner Taylor motions to postpone the appointment pending clarification. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision. Later in the meeting, New Haven PSD Board Chair Lisa Queen confirms that both applicants are over age 18 and states that the board recommends Austin Isaacs. Commissioner Taylor motions to appoint Austin Isaacs to the vacant seat. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

New River Gorge Regional Development Authority Board Member Appointment - The Commission discusses replacing former Commissioner Tom Louisos due to prolonged nonattendance at board meetings. Commissioner Taylor motions to appoint David Arnold, who previously served on the board. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Public Hearing Regarding New Precinct – County Clerk Michelle Holly discusses the creation of a new precinct to accommodate

the Town of Fayetteville municipal election. The required GIS work has been completed, and the appropriate files will be submitted to the West Virginia Secretary of State and West Virginia University. No members of the public speak in opposition. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve creation of the new precinct. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Election Orders - The Commission considers the Order Extending Emergency Absentee Voting and the Order Noticing the Number of Election Officials. County Clerk Michelle Holly explains the emergency absentee-voting process and the need for election commissioners of opposite political parties. The Commission requests that the Clerk prepare a letter regarding absentee ballots mailed late to a nursing home, provide copies of the applicable law and outgoing letters, and continue efforts to secure the required election officials. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve both orders. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Executive Session - At 9:24 a.m., Commissioner Taylor motions to enter executive session for legal advice concerning the sick and vacation leave policy, a land-transfer request to the Land Reuse Agency, litigation against the Division of Corrections regarding billing, and the revised asset purchase agreement involving West Virginia American Water and affected public service districts. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision. The Commission returns to regular session at approximately 11:02 a.m. No decisions are made in executive session.

Sick and Vacation Leave Policy - Commissioner Taylor motions to amend the County policy so that employees hired on or after July 1, 2026, begin earning annual and sick leave upon hire rather than after six months; may use leave immediately after it is accumulated; are eligible for payout of accrued annual leave upon separation only after completing one year of employment; and may not carry a negative annual- or sick-leave balance. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Land Transfer Request to Land Reuse Agency - Commissioner Taylor motions to direct County counsel to draft a letter requesting that the NRGRDA transfer Wolf Creek Park back to the Fayette County Land Reuse Agency to provide greater flexibility to market and sell the property. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Division of Corrections Billing Litigation - Commissioner Taylor motions to authorize County counsel to engage with the West

Virginia Association of Counties and take actions in counsel's judgment to pursue the issue of county commissions being charged for incarcerated inmates. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Revised Asset Purchase Agreement - Outside counsel Michael Taylor advises the Commission that the revised asset purchase agreement adds the affected public service districts as signatories and obligates them under the agreement but otherwise remains substantively unchanged. He further explains that valid, provable debts associated with the transaction will be paid whether or not each debt is specifically listed in the agreement. Commissioner Taylor motions to sign the revised asset purchase agreement as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

The meeting adjourns at approximately 11:08 a.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
August 19, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), ALLISON RAE TAYLOR, and CHUCK MILLER

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 19th day of August, 2026.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Deputy Willis leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds - Assessor Tara Tyree presents the following exonerations along with two refunds:
Quadient, Inc., $2.34, $7.48, $9.92; Enervest Operating, LLC., $7.70; Joe Ptere or Donna Pino, $255.68; Mark Thomas, $704.20; De Lage Landen, $1,873.94; TLT, $3,261.94; Joseph Alan & Theresa L. Flanagan, $1,244.52; Roy R. George, $96.84; Quadient Leasing USA, Inc., $7.98 and $7.04; Terry L. & Kathy A. Damron, $138.35; Bryan D. Coleman, et al., $648.00; Sharon & Michael Christinzio, $7.68; Angela Renee King, $932.64; Billy C., Jr., & April L. Moses, $1,012.26; Lynda S. Jensen, $45.42 and $49.50; Coty Pack, $64.86, $64.86, $64.86, $68.44, $68.06, and $71.98; Ryan Hanshew, $62.56, $62.56, $66.02, $65.36 and $69.48. Commissioner

Taylor motions to approve the exonerations as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the refunds as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices - Commissioner Taylor requests additional information regarding several vouchers and invoices before approval. Following clarification later in the meeting, Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the vouchers and invoices as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Payroll - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve payroll for August 21, 2026. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.
Meeting Minutes - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the August 5, 2026, meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Estate Settlements - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the estate settlements as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Order Approving Early Voting Locations - County Clerk Michelle Holly discusses the locations traditionally used for early voting and recommends continuing to use the same three locations: Green Valley Church, Montgomery Community Center, and the Memorial. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the three early voting locations. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Garage Employee Pay Discussion - Brian Good requests an increase in pay for garage employee Mike Bailey from $16 to $18 per hour. Good discusses Bailey's work performance, reliability, relationships with vendors and dealerships, and the value of retaining an experienced employee in the position. He confirms that the budget can accommodate the increase. Commissioner Taylor motions to increase Bailey's pay to $18 per hour. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Region IV ARPA Drawdown for Trail Project - Cassandra Lawson of Region IV presents Resolution No. 5 for consideration. The drawdown includes $13,973.03 in invoicing from Terradon for work completed during July, including design, plans and specifications, permitting, geotechnical work, and related services. The amount is requested from the Fayette County Commission's allocation. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the drawdown. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Brenemen notes that Region IV Executive Director John Tuggle will retire at the end of the year and that Leslie Taylor will become the new Executive Director.

Ratify Letter for Montgomery General Hospital - The Commission considers ratification of a previously issued letter of support requested by Montgomery General Hospital in connection with a project to install ramps. Commissioner Taylor motions to ratify the support letter. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

DEP Security Access Approval for Water Permit for Shooting Range - The Commission discusses the need to designate a master security agent to allow access to the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection system for the shooting range water-permitting process. Commissioner Taylor motions to appoint Ruth Lanier as the master security agent. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.
Community Corrections Grant Award Acceptance - Commissioner Taylor motions to accept the Community Corrections Grant award. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Executive Session - At 9:08 a.m., Commissioner Taylor motions to enter executive session to discuss the Family Resource Network lease, leasing space at the Community Corrections building, and legal matters related to the shooting range bid documents. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

The Commission returns to regular session at approximately 10:23 a.m. No decisions are made in executive session.

Family Resource Network Lease Discussion - Commissioner Taylor states that the Commission identified several areas of the proposed lease it wishes to negotiate. She requests that representatives remain after the meeting to discuss those items further. No action is taken.

The Commission discusses, in general terms, leasing space at the Community Corrections building in connection with the Family Resource Network lease discussion. No further action is taken.

Shooting Range Bid Documents - Jesse Parker of New River Engineers discusses the bidding process and proposed schedule for the shooting range project. The Commission states that bidders should have free electronic access to the plans and that the project should include a mandatory pre-bid meeting. The Commission agrees to hold the mandatory pre-bid meeting in the Commission Chambers on September 1, 2026, at 10:00 a.m., with

approximately one hour allotted for the meeting before proceeding to the project site as appropriate. Bids are to be submitted by 3:00 p.m. on September 15, 2026, for consideration at the September 16 Commission meeting. New River Engineers will provide the bid documents to the County for publication.

Before adjournment, the Commissioners recognize the extensive response to recent flooding in Fayette County and thank County staff, the Governor's Office, the National Guard, local fire departments, law enforcement agencies, and others who assisted. The Commission acknowledges the significant efforts of emergency personnel during rescue and recovery operations and expresses appreciation to all who helped protect residents and animals during the flooding.

The meeting adjourns at approximately 10:30 a.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
September 2, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), ALLISON RAE TAYLOR, and CHUCK MILLER

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 2nd day of September, 2026.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Tracy Mason, the new County Commission Administrative Assistant, leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds - Assessor Tara Tyree presents an order to divide land, exonerations, and refunds for consideration.

Assessor Tara Tyree presents a petition to divide the assessment for Lot B, Huse Addition, Lots 21 through 24, in the Fayetteville Municipality. The property is currently assessed to Joshua Woods as Class 4 property. The petition requests that the 2027 Land Book reflect the property under Brittany Venci, with 25% assessed as owner-occupied Class 2 property and 75% assessed as Airbnb Class 4 property. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the order to divide land. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Assessor Tara Tyree presents the following exonerations: Jo Ann Smith, $256.00; Larry Ray & Amelia Ann Perry, $18.36; Carol B. Brown, $541.66; Crystal Ann & Dakota Heath Amick, $207.12; Orion Jacob Batista, $618.72; First American Commercial Bancorp, Inc., $113.80; Janie A. Atkins, $682.50; Robert Matthew & Brooke Elaine Cole, $85.32; Virginia & Jimmie Keech, $303.22; Julie S. Bird, $69.16; The Huntington National Bank, $862.12; Nancy Phillips, $475.00. Commissioner Miller motions to approve the exonerations as presented. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the refunds as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices - The Commission reviews the vouchers and invoices. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the vouchers and invoices as presented, excluding reimbursement for printer ink. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Oak Hill Equipment Purchase - The Commission discusses Oak Hill equipment purchases that were quoted and submitted before the end of the prior fiscal year but were not included with the vouchers. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the equipment purchases. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Payroll - Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve payroll for September 4, 2026. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meeting Minutes - Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the August 19, 2026, meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Estate Settlements - Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the estate settlements as presented. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Order Nominating and Approving Poll Workers - County Clerk Michelle Holly presents the list of poll workers for the 2026 General Election. She states that the Clerk's Office received recommendations from both executive committees and supplemented the lists as needed. Staffing is sufficient except for one Republican emergency absentee voting commissioner. Holly explains that staffing will vary by location under the polling-location model, with five poll workers at most single-precinct locations, seven at Precinct 11, and five to seven at combined locations based on anticipated voter volume. Commissioner Taylor

motions to approve the poll worker list. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Poll Book Update - Holly reports that the new poll books are expected by the middle of September. Election Systems & Software representatives will assist the Clerk's Office with setup, and poll-worker training will include hands-on instruction for connecting, starting, and using the equipment.

Part-Time Election Clerk – County Clerk Holly requests approval to rehire Rebecca Settle as a part-time election clerk. Settle previously assisted the office during the spring election and left in good standing. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the hire. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

New Employees - The Commission considers the following hires: Tracy Mason, County Commission Administrative Assistant; Haley Williams, Community Corrections Program Assistant; and Autumn Bess, Assessor's Office Personal Property Clerk. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve all three hires. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Family Resource Network Lease - The Commission reviews the revised lease incorporating the changes discussed at the prior meeting. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the lease with the Family Resource Network for space in the Scarbro Community Corrections building. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Letter to Department of Highways Regarding Route 60 Bridge - Region IV Executive Director John Tuggle reports that he contacted the West Virginia Division of Highways district office regarding residents' request to paint the Route 60 bridge blue. The Commission clarifies that the proposed letter supports the residents' existing request. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the letter of support. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Thank-You Letter to the ASPCA - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve a letter thanking the ASPCA for assisting the Fayette County Animal Control Center during the flooding. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Animal Shelter Bridge Repair - Commissioner Miller thanks the municipalities, residents, and other volunteers who assisted the Animal Shelter after the flood. He reports that the bridge can be crossed on foot but requires temporary repairs before County vehicles can use it safely. The proposed work includes decking

and guardrail installation by a certified welder, with material costs of $7,278 and labor costs of $7,800. The Division of Highways has reviewed the temporary-repair approach. A permanent replacement bridge, previously approved for grant funding, is projected to begin in March. Commissioner Miller motions to approve the temporary bridge repair. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

USDA Discussion Regarding Gauley River Public Service District - Steve Collins of USDA Rural Development advises the Commission that Gauley River Public Service District has experienced financial difficulty and has not made its regular USDA loan payments since approximately February or March. USDA holds seven loans with a combined outstanding principal balance of approximately $5.8 million, or approximately $5.9 million including interest. Payments are currently being made from debt-service reserve accounts, which USDA estimates can cover another four to five months before being depleted.

USDA representatives report that the PSD attributed the payment difficulty to substantial back taxes and stated that the tax repayment was completed in August. The PSD has indicated that it expects to resume partial debt-service payments, but USDA has not received a written repayment plan. USDA explains that it prefers to work with borrowers before delinquency occurs; possible consequences of an unresolved default can include offset of other federal funds, receivership, or foreclosure. The Commission notes that its direct authority is limited primarily to appointments to the PSD board and requests copies of the loan documents and balances.

Commissioner Taylor motions to send a letter to the Gauley River PSD Board requesting information about the financial situation and the plan for resuming payments. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Flood Update - The Commissioners thank County departments, Armstrong Creek Fire Department, Loop Creek, the Sheriff's Department, dispatchers, emergency personnel, churches, municipalities, volunteers, the Division of Highways, and other organizations and residents who assisted with rescue, transportation, meals, supplies, mapping, cleanup, and recovery. The Commission specifically recognizes the training and work of the swift-water and high-angle rescue teams. The Commission plans to prepare an after-action report to identify lessons from the widespread flooding and improve future response. Commissioner Brenemen motions to send thank-you letters to the

organizations that assisted. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Flood Relief Applications and Funding - The Commission reports that it is accepting applications from residents seeking disaster assistance. Potential aid may include limited household assistance for items such as HVAC systems, depending on the number of applications received, demonstrated need, and available funding. Applications will be reviewed after the submission deadline in advance of the September 16 meeting. No further action is taken.

Coal Severance Disaster Cleanup Option - Commissioner Miller discusses Senate Bill 243, recently enacted state legislation allowing coal companies to perform disaster-related stream cleanup using their equipment and receive credit against coal severance taxes. He states that participating companies could work through the West Virginia Department of Environmental Protection to remove debris and restore stream flow. Commissioner Miller motions to use the coal severance disaster cleanup option. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Disaster Leave - Commissioner Taylor proposes providing County employees whose homes are affected by a disaster with up to three days of paid leave for cleanup and recovery. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve up to three days of disaster leave. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions to apply the disaster-leave policy retroactively to employees affected by the recent flooding. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

The meeting adjourns at 9:36 a.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
September 16, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President) and CHUCK MILLER
ABSENT: ALLISON RAE TAYLOR

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 16th day of September, 2026.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the meeting to order at 9:06 a.m. Commissioner Taylor is absent due to illness.

Elisabeth Daniels, Grants & Projects Coordinator, leads the Pledge of Allegiance.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds - Assessor Tara Tyree presents a petition for consolidation and exonerations for consideration.

Assessor Tara Tyree presents a petition to consolidate two adjoining tracts assessed to Five Fun LLC in the Fayetteville Municipality. The tracts are Lot 156, Washington Heights, and part of Lot 155, consisting of 0.04 acre of surface property in Washington Heights. Both are assessed as Class 2 property in the 2026 Land Book. The petition requests that the 2027 Land Book reflect the consolidated property under Five Fun LLC as Lot 156, Washington Heights, including part of Lot 155, consisting of 0.04 acre of surface property in Washington Heights, as Class 2 property.

Assessor Tara Tyree presents the following exonerations: Judith & Donald F. Miller Sr., $46.86; Shanda & Brandon Carlascio, $231.56; James F. & Drema Hanshew, $1,003.02; Bonnie Allen, $140.50; Carl E. & Tammy S. Stone, $286.70; Amy B. & Brian S. Bennett, $36.62; Charles W. Rock, $1,221.31; Freddie W. & Linda L. Perdue, $747.46; Virginia M. Johnston, $104.46, $104.46, $104.46, $110.30, $109.08, and $116.06; The WV Land Trust, Inc., $67.64; Jacob Massile, $51.12; Anthony Myers & Megain Layne, $451.93.

Commissioner Miller motions to approve the consolidation petition and exonerations as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices - The Commission reviews the vouchers and invoices. Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the vouchers and invoices as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Payroll - Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve payroll for September 18, 2026. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meeting Minutes - Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the September 2, 2026, meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Estate Settlements - Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the estate settlements as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Delinquent Tax List for Publication - Terri Robinson presents the delinquent tax list for publication. Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the list as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Courthouse Facilities Improvement Grant Application - County Administrator Ruth Lanier reports that applications are due the following week and reviews potential projects. The Commission discusses safety and security concerns involving the railing and shrubbery at the Courthouse Annex. Commissioner Miller motions to authorize submission of a grant application for the Annex improvements. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Motorola Flex Subscription - The Commission reviews a proposal to change the Motorola Flex support subscription from a one-year agreement to a five-year agreement with an opt-out provision. The annual cost is $51,584.26, fixed for five years, representing estimated first-year savings of approximately $10,000. Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the agreement. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

911 Center Recognition - The Commission recognizes three Fayette County 911 dispatchers who received national Sunshine Dispatcher Awards from Gold Line Support for their service and professionalism.

Thank-You Letter to Designs by Barb and James - The Commission recognizes Designs by Barb and James for donating purple ribbons for National Recovery Month. Commissioner Miller motions to send a thank-you letter. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Support Letter for Wild Institute - The Commission reviews a request for a letter of support and discusses questions regarding Region IV's role as fiscal sponsor, the organization's nonprofit status, whether local first responders could participate, and whether Region IV could assist with a grant for the County training center. Commissioner Brenemen motions to postpone the matter until additional information is obtained. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Letter to Department of Highways Regarding Charlton Heights - The Commission discusses a citizen complaint regarding speeding on Charlton Heights Road, a narrow residential road. The

Sheriff's Department has addressed the request for additional patrols. Commissioner Miller motions to send a letter to the West Virginia Division of Highways requesting speed-limit signage and signs warning that children are playing in the area. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Community Corrections HVAC and Camera Repairs - The Commission discusses failed HVAC units and camera-system repairs needed at the Community Corrections building. Approximately half of the cameras are operating, and the combined work is expected to require competitive procurement. Commissioner Brenemen motions to complete the necessary HVAC and camera repairs and use opioid settlement funds for the work. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Audit Committee Appointment - County Administrator Ruth Lanier reports that an audit committee of three members is required to review proposals. Commissioner Miller motions to retain the current committee, replacing Commissioner Taylor with Commissioner Brenemen. Unanimous decision.

Financial Statement - The Commission reviews the completed financial statement for publication. Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the financial statement. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Park Board Appointment - The Commission considers Shelby Holt's application to serve as the Family Resource Network representative on the Fayette County Park Board for a three-year term. Commissioner Brenemen motions to appoint Shelby Holt. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Hazard Mitigation Lease - The Commission reports that the proposed hazard mitigation lease has completed legal review. Commissioner Miller motions to approve the lease. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Evidence Storage Discussion - Kevin “Twig” Willis reports that evidence must be removed from the old jail and discusses the need for storage near the Courthouse for trial access. The Sheriff's Department has case files dating to the early 1990s and estimates that it will take approximately three months to review the materials. Some evidence must be retained, while an estimated 300 to 500 destruction orders may be needed from a Circuit Court judge. A new evidence room has been established downstairs in the former office of Shawn Campbell. No action is taken.

The Commission briefly recesses due to technical difficulties and reconvenes at 9:31 a.m.

Shooting Range Bid Opening - Jessie Parker explains that the bids are for mass grading for the shooting range project. The Commission opens the following bids: Solid Rock Excavating, Inc., $355,850, with Alternate A at $42,000; Radford & Radford, Inc., $400,591, with Alternate A at $18,000; and Swope Construction Co., $299,450, with Alternate A at $17,000. Parker will review the bids and provide a recommendation. The Commission plans to award the bid at its October 14, 2026, meeting. No action is taken.

Executive Session - Commissioner Brenemen motions to enter executive session at 9:36 a.m. to receive legal advice concerning the animal shelter intake and response policies and the flood relief applications. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

The Commission returns to regular session at 10:29 a.m. Commissioner Brenemen reports that no decisions were made during executive session.

Animal Shelter Policies for Intakes and Response - The Commission reports that several matters have been addressed and additional input will be requested. Commissioner Brenemen motions to table the matter until the October 14, 2026, meeting. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Flood Relief Application Review - The Commission reports that the application window is closed and more applications were received than anticipated. The applications will be reviewed before determinations are made. Commissioner Brenemen motions to table the matter until the October 14, 2026, meeting. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

The meeting adjourns at 10:31 a.m.

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION
REGULAR SESSION
October 14, 2026
FAYETTE COUNTY COURTHOUSE

PRESENT: JOHN G. BRENEMEN (President), ALLISON RAE TAYLOR, and CHUCK MILLER

FAYETTE COUNTY COMMISSION - ALL 2026 MINUTES (CLICK TO RETURN TO THE TOP)

The Fayette County Commission meets in regular session on this 14th day of October, 2026.

Commissioner Brenemen calls the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Public Voting Equipment Test – Before the regular meeting, the Commission attends the public voting equipment test at the Fayette County Memorial Building. Commissioner Taylor reports that the County purchased electronic poll books at the recommendation of the County Clerk to address eligibility issues identified during the primary election. She explains that the system verifies voter registration information and generates the appropriate precinct and party information for use with the voting equipment. The test confirms that voters receive access to the contests for which they are eligible and that the results are accurate.

Commissioner Taylor encourages members of the public with questions about the process to contact the County Clerk.

State Treasurer Check Presentation – State Treasurer Larry Pack presents $7,000 in returned unclaimed property to the Fayette County Commission and reports that approximately $2,400 is also being returned to the Sheriff's Department. Treasurer Pack discusses the State's unclaimed property program and encourages residents to search for unclaimed funds through the Treasurer's Office. No action is taken.

Exonerations, Orders to Combine or Divide Land, Refunds – Assessor Tara Tyree presents exonerations, orders to combine property, and refunds for consideration.

The following exonerations are presented: Charles Andrew Wood, $991.50 and $15.37; McGuffin Trust, $602.60; Greg & Carla Tolliver, $7.42 and $7.42; Joseph Robert Helm, $50.96; Watts Enterprises LLC, $8,407.85; David Harbison, $54.16; Lisa A or Kaylah Hunter, $256.46; Judith Ann Mitchell, $7.70 and $7.42; Joshua N. Milam, $52.80; Carl Timothy & Shirley Diana Critchely, $535.00; Becky Melissa Huff & Michael Scott Sheffield, $79.54; JP Morgan Chase Bank, $542.14; Judys Beauty Shop, $15.86; Katja Toler, $493.62 and $464.84; Joey Sneed, $66.02; Michelle Stover, $63.78; and Michael Allen & Jo Ellen Legg, $216.78.

Commissioner Miller motions to approve the exonerations as presented. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the orders to combine as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the refunds as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Vouchers and Invoices - Commissioner Taylor reports that her packet does not contain itemized fire vouchers or supporting receipts and requests that consideration of the fire vouchers be postponed until the documentation can be reviewed. Consideration of vouchers and invoices is deferred until later in the meeting.

Payroll - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve payroll for October 16, 2026. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Meeting Minutes - Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the September 16, 2026, meeting minutes as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Commissioners Brenemen and Miller vote in favor. Commissioner Taylor abstains because she was not present at that meeting. Motion passes.

Estate Settlements - Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the estate settlements as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Sheriff's Department Vehicle Equipment Purchase - The Commission discusses a request to purchase approximately $180,000 in equipment to outfit new Sheriff's Department vehicles funded through a congressionally directed spending grant. The Commission notes that the equipment purchase requires competitive bidding. The item is struck from the agenda and will be returned for consideration after the bidding process. No purchase is approved.

Support Letter for WILD Institute - Mystic Miller requests a letter supporting WILD Institute's mission so that Region IV may serve as fiscal sponsor for a proposed Benedum Foundation grant. She describes wilderness medicine, search and rescue, swift water rescue, and ATV/UTV recovery training for first responders, adventure guides, and the public. She also discusses training designed for women, scholarships, and the potential economic benefit of bringing participants into the County.

The Commission discusses possible duplication with training offered through the County's fire training center and the differences in the audiences served. Miller explains that the request is for a support letter and does not request County funding.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the support letter. The motion receives no second. The support letter is not approved.

DRC HVAC System Bid Opening - The Commission opens bids for the DRC HVAC system: Ward Plumbing, $85,000; Mechanical & Power, $39,980; Harris Brothers, $127,700; and Dan Hill Construction, $189,554.84. Dan Ooten will review the bids for compliance with the advertised specifications.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the lowest bid that complies with the advertised specifications. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Region IV Drawdown for Trails - A Region IV representative presents a drawdown request for the Southern West Virginia Bike Trail Network Project. The request includes $23,727.98 in consultant invoices and $210.25 in Region IV invoices for June 2026, totaling $23,938.23, to be paid from the County's ARPA funds.

Commissioner Brenemen motions to approve the drawdown. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Library Board Appointment - The Commission considers reappointment of Kendra Crist to the Library Board for a five-year term following expiration of her prior term on June 30. Commissioner Miller motions to approve the reappointment. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

New Hires - The Commission considers ratification of Kimberly Ruff in the Assessor's Office, Dakota Nutter as a 911 dispatcher, and Matthew Mullins at the Animal Shelter. Commissioner Taylor motions to ratify the three new hires. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Auditor Selection - The Commission reviews proposals from Perry and Associates and David Howe. The evaluation scores are 191 for Perry and Associates and 192 for David Howe. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve David Howe as auditor. Commissioner Brenemen seconds. Unanimous decision.

Hazard Mitigation Lease - The Commission confirms that the proposed hazard mitigation lease has been reviewed by legal counsel. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the lease. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

REAP Grant Application - The Commission discusses applying for a REAP grant to continue demolition work. The application deadline

is in November. The Commission directs that the requested amount reflects the work the County can reasonably complete and notes that no matching funds are required.

Commissioner Miller motions to authorize the grant application. Commissioner Taylor seconds. Unanimous decision.

Memorial Building Electrical Service Bids - The Commission discusses an electrical service upgrade needed before HVAC improvements can proceed at the Memorial Building. The estimated cost is $64,000, requiring competitive bidding. Staff will prepare the project for bidding. No vote is taken.

Farmland Protection Board Appointment - The Commission considers a request to reappoint Kenneth Wm. Hauer to the Farmland Protection Board and notes his service as treasurer since May of the prior year. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the reappointment. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Best Friends Animal Grant - The Commission considers ratification of the Best Friends animal grant application already submitted by Maria. Commissioner Taylor motions to ratify the application. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Pea Ridge Bridge - The proposed letter to the Division of Highways regarding Pea Ridge Bridge is struck from the agenda because the bridge has already been repaired. No action is taken.

Animal Shelter Bridge Right of Entry - The Commission considers a request from the Department of Transportation for right of entry to construct the new bridge at the Animal Shelter. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the request and authorize Commissioner Brenemen to sign on behalf of the Commission. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Animal Shelter Intake Policy - The Commission reviews the proposed intake policy and discusses shelter capacity, owner responsibility, and the risk of abandonment if owner surrenders are restricted.

The Commission agrees to amend the policy to provide a 45-day period during which owners keep their animals while the shelter assists with finding new homes, with exceptions for safety concerns. The amendments also provide for documentation of surrender requests, photographs and online posting to assist with placement, and available veterinary records. If placement

is unsuccessful during the 45-day period, the owner may bring the animal to the shelter.

The Commission also agrees to add notice to owners of animals seized in cruelty cases advising them of their right to request a hearing.

Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the policy as amended. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

High School Election Officer Program - The Commission considers an order establishing a High School Election Officer Program. The program allows eligible 16- and 17-year-old high school juniors and seniors to serve as election officers. The presentation describes academic and consent requirements and explains that the program will help address poll worker shortages and encourage young people to participate in the election process. Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the order establishing the program. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

Executive Session - Commissioner Taylor motions to enter executive session at 9:57 a.m. to receive legal advice from counsel regarding the Creek Cleanup Project, Item 14 on Exhibit A.

The Commission returns to regular session at 10:25 a.m. Commissioner Brenemen reports that no decisions were made during executive session.

Shooting Range Bid Award - Matt from New River Engineers presents the notice of award for development of the Sheriff's shooting range. The recommended low bidder is Swope Construction, with a total bid of $316,450, including a $17,000 alternate for clearing a trail for the 500-yard shooting range. The Commission confirms that the bid meets the project specifications and that sufficient law enforcement levy funds are available.

Commissioner Taylor motions to award the bid to Swope Construction for $316,450. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

CityNet Broadband Update - Melissa O'Brien presents an update on CityNet's broadband expansion into Fayette County. She reports that CityNet has received an award to serve a portion of the County's unserved and underserved addresses, primarily in the eastern portion of the County.

CityNet executed its grant agreement with the State on September 16, 2026, beginning a four-year period for completion. O'Brien provides a map of the awarded service area and explains that engineering and construction scheduling are underway. A County construction schedule has not yet been established. She discusses potential delays involving utility make-ready work and permitting and states that she will provide progress updates. Residents may use CityNet's address lookup portal to check service availability. No action is taken.

The Commission recesses at approximately 10:42 a.m.to allow Commissioner Taylor to review vouchers and invoices. The Commission reconvenes at 10:52 a.m.

Vouchers and Invoices - Commissioner Taylor motions to approve the vouchers and invoices as presented. Commissioner Miller seconds. Unanimous decision.

The meeting adjourns at 10:53 a.m.