COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING-TUESDAY, APRIL 11, 2023 –10:00 A.M.

AGENDA:

OPEN WITH PRAYER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS:

- Mercer Board of Health
  Resignation of Randy Maxwell
  Appointment & Oath of Office
  Gene Buckner To Fill Unexpired
  Term Ending 6/30/2023

- Mercer County Flood Appeals Board
  Appointment & Oath of Office
  Robert Hoge, Shawn Vest, Sean Wyatt
  Aaron Beeman, Bill Archer

CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS/RESOLUTIONS:

- Thompson & Litton, Inc.
  Agreement for Engineering Services
  Courthouse Sidewalk Project
  Matt Allen, Project Engineer

- Thompson & Litton, Inc.
  Agreement for Engineering Services
  Courthouse ADA Restroom Project
  Matt Allen, Project Engineer

- Resolution Honoring the Life of
  William “Bill” Stafford
  Bill Archer, President

- Resolution Honoring Johnathan Robinette
  Bill Archer, President

- Proclamation-Child Abuse Prevention
  Month & Children’s Memorial Flag Day
  Children’s Home Society
  Jenna Miller, Director

- Proclamation-Fair Housing Month
  Region One Planning & Development
  Tyler Myers, Administrative Assistant

- Proclamation-American Red Cross Month
  American Red Cross, Central & Southern WV
  Angela Akers, Disaster Program Manager

- Exterior Services SWV, Inc.
  Approval of Bid to Refurbish
  Glenwood Park Game Courts
  Bill Archer, President

- American Rescue Plan
  Status of Moratorium
  Gene Buckner, Commissioner

- WV State Treasurer’s Office
  Investment in Consolidated Fund
  Gene Buckner, Commissioner

ESTATES:
- Richard Duncan

FUNDING REQUESTS:
- Main Street Builders
  Pay Application 1 & 2
  Gene Buckner, Commissioner
- Friends of Pinnacle Rock
  Josh Parks, Contact Person
- Riff Raff Arts Collective, Inc.
  First Friday Concerts & Peak of the Bloom
  Lori McKinney, Contact Person
- Empire Salvage & Recycling, Inc.
  Invoice for Demolition of Structures
  Lori Mills, Dilapidated Structures Officer
- Mountain Dominion District of Buckskin
  Council-Boy Scouts of America

DISCUSSION:
-
- Cornbread Ridge Road-Litter Concerns
  Ann Howard & Connie Whitt, Residents
- Property Maintenance/Code Enforcement
  Lori Mills, Dilapidated Structures Officer
- Personnel Matter
  Bill Archer, President

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

COMMISSION TO APPROVE THE FOLLOWING:
1. Invoices
2. Settlements
3. Exonerations
4. List of Approved Estates for March 2023

WEST VIRGINIA:

At a regular session of the County Commission, held for the County of Mercer, at the Courthouse thereof, on Tuesday, April 11, 2023,

Present:	Bill Archer,	President
Present:	Gene Buckner,	Commissioner
Present:	Greg Puckett,	Commissioner

RE: THOMPSON & LITTON AGREEMENT FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR COURTHOUSE SIDEWALK PROJECT

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner Commissioner, the Commission voted to approve a contract from Thompson & Litton for the removal of existing sidewalk and its replacement. Funding was approved for the amount of $49,155.00.

RE: THOMPSON & LITTON AGREEMENT FOR ENGINEERING SERVICES FOR COURTHOUSE ADA RESTROOM PROJECT

This day on motion of Gene Buckner, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett Commissioner, the Commission voted to approve a contract from Thompson & Litton for ADA restroom. Funding was approved for the amount of $13,300.00.

RE: RESIGNATION – RANDY MAXWELL – MERCER BOARD OF HEALTH

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to accept the Resignation of Randy Maxwell from the Mercer County Board of Health effective immediately.

RE: OATH – MERCER BOARD OF HEALTH

This day on motion of Bill Archer, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted to approve the Appointment and Oath of Office for Gene Buckner, Mercer County Board of Health to fill term ending 6/30/2023. Greg Puckett, Commissioner opposed the motion.

RE: OATH – MERCER COUNTY FLOOD APPEALS BOARD

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted to approve the Appointment and Oath of Office for Robert Hoge for the Mercer County Flood Appeals Board.

RE: OATH – MERCER COUNTY FLOOD APPEALS BOARD

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted to approve the Appointment and Oath of Office for Shawn Vest for the Mercer County Flood Appeals Board.

RE: OATH – MERCER COUNTY FLOOD APPEALS BOARD

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted to approve the Appointment and Oath of Office for Aaron Beeman for the Mercer County Flood Appeals Board.

RE: OATH – MERCER COUNTY FLOOD APPEALS BOARD

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted to approve the Appointment and Oath of Office for Bill Archer for the Mercer County Flood Appeals Board.

RE: OATH – MERCER COUNTY FLOOD APPEALS BOARD

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted to approve the Appointment and Oath of Office for Chuck White for the Mercer County Flood Appeals Board.

RE: RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM "BILL" STAFFORD

This day on motion of Bill Archer, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to approve a Resolution Honoring the Life of William "Bill" Stafford.

Mercer County Commission

1501 West Main, Suite 210
Princeton, West Virginia 24740

Phone: (304) 487-8306
Fax: (304) 487-8370
Email:
mercercocommission@frontiernet.net

VICKY REED
County Administrator

BILL ARCHER
1322 Woodrow Avenue
BLUEFIELD, WV 24701

GENE BUCKNER
118 Martingale Place
BLUEFIELD, WV 24701

GREG PUCKETT
334 Pine Acres Way
PRINCETON, WV 24739

RESOLUTION HONORING THE LIFE OF WILLIAM "BILL" STAFFORD

Whereas, one of Mercer County's leading citizens, William P. "Bill" Stafford, passed away on March 17, 2023 at his residence. During a lifetime of work, public and community service Bill Stafford made a difference as a topnotch journeyman machinist who established Princeton Machinery Service. He also served his community as chairman of First Community Bank Shares Inc., president of the H.P. and Anne S. Hunnicutt Foundation, and the principal of Stafford Farms LLC; and,

Whereas, in addition to his service to Mercer County, Mr. Stafford was elected in 1972 and served one term in the West Virginia House of Delegates and also served 17 years as Commissioner of the Division of Natural Resources. During a time in Mercer County history when few Republican Party members served in public office, Mr. Stafford was close friends with two Republican Governors – Gov. Cecil Underwood and Gov. Arch Moore. He and his wife, the late Ann Hunnicutt "Dink" Stafford hosted meet-and-greet events for Underwood, Moore and other Republicans, and;

Whereas, Bill and Dink made a great impact on Mercer County during their combined lifelong commitment to public and community service through their years of working to assist the Mercer County Fair as well as other humanitarian and environmental initiatives. That legacy of service still lives through the commitment of their family and friends as well as the H.P and Anne S. Hunnicutt Foundation that Bill Stafford served on as president at the time of his death, and;

Now, Therefore, the Mercer County Commission expresses its heartfelt condolences to the entire Stafford family. Some may remember that this commission passed a Memorial Resolution on January 24, 2023 honoring Bill Stafford's brother, Jack Stafford on his passing. The Stafford brothers and their respective families have made a positive impact on Mercer County … West Virginia and these United States of America.

DATED THIS 11TH DAY OF APRIL, 2023

MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION:

BILL ARCHER, PRESIDENT

GENE BUCKNER, COMMISSIONER

GREG PUCKETT, COMMISSIONER

RE: RESOLUTION HONORING JOHNATHAN ROBINETTE

This day on motion of Bill Archer, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to approve a Resolution Honoring Johnathan Robinette.

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RESOLUTION HONORING JOHNATHON ROBINETTE

Whereas, heroes come in all shapes, sizes, and ages, and on December 26, 2022, an 11-year-old hero emerged and helped get his family to safety during an emergency. Johnathan Robinette, a student at Oakvale Elementary School woke up on the morning following Christmas felt a burning sensation in his eyes and looked around the house but didn't find any smoke; and

Whereas, Jonathon Robinette woke up his mother, Crystal Wyrick, to alert her to his burning eyes and no smoke. However, a short time after his mother was fully awake, the family home was filled with smoke. Jonathan ran for help as his mother and step-father woke up his two sisters and got them out of the house. Clothed only his bedclothes, Jonathan ran to the home of the family's nearest neighbor who contacted the Oakvale Volunteer Fire Department; and

Whereas, Assistant Chief Shannon Clyburn with Oakvale Volunteer Fire Department reported later that the fire originated in the attic. Clyburn stated that the Oakvale VFD provides training for students at Oakvale Elementary during National Fire Prevention Month in October. The fire department and Town of Oakvale honored Jonathan for his efforts to help his family.

Now, Therefore Be It Resolved that the Mercer County Commission joins the Oakvale Volunteer Fire Department and Oakvale Town Council in recognizing Johnathan Robinette for his service to his family and Mercer County by being alert and taking the right steps to help his family and this community. Thank you, Jonathan.

Dated this 28th day of March 2023.

Mercer County Commission:

_____
Bill Archer, President

_____
Gene Buckner, Commissioner

_____
Greg Puckett, Commissioner

RE: PROCLAMATION – CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH & CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL FLAG DAY

This day on motion of Gene Buckner, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to proclaim April 2023 as Child Abuse Prevention Month and Friday, April 28, 2023 as Children's Memorial Flag Day in Mercer County, West Virginia.

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PROCLAMATION
APRIL IS CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH &
CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL FLAG DAY IS APRIL 28th, 2023

WHEREAS, children are the future of WV and we continue to work towards a state that is greater for them than the one we grew up in; and

WHEREAS, finding solutions to child maltreatment requires input and action from everyone, and education efforts increase public awareness about ways to recognize and prevent child abuse; and

WHEREAS, prevention remains the best defense for our children and families, and

WHEREAS, the Children's Memorial Flag has become a recognizable symbol of the need to do a better job of protecting children; and

WHEREAS, approximately 3 million children are reported abused and neglected in this country each year; and

WHEREAS, effective child abuse prevention programs succeed because of partnerships created among social service agencies, schools, religious and civic organizations, law enforcement agencies, and the business community; and

WHEREAS, all citizens should become more aware of the negative effects of child abuse and its prevention within their communities, and become involved in supporting parents to raise their children in a safe, nurturing environment;

NOW, THEREFORE We, The Mercer County Commission do hereby proclaim April 2023 as **CHILD ABUSE PREVENTION MONTH** AND the designated month to display the **CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL FLAG** in Mercer County, WV. We further designate, **Friday, April 28th, 2023 as CHILDREN'S MEMORIAL FLAG DAY** and invite the Mercer County Citizens to attend a Rededication Service and Remembrance Walk at the Mercer County Courthouse at Noon on April 28th, 2023.

DATED THIS 11 DAY OF APRIL, 2023.

MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION:

_____
Bill Archer, President

_____
Greg Puckett, Commissioner

_____
Gene Buckner, Commissioner

RE: RESOLUTION – FAIR HOUSING MONTH - APRIL

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the Fair Housing Resolution for Mercer County declaring the month of April as Fair Housing Month.

MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION

FAIR HOUSING PROCLAMATION

LET IT BE KNOWN TO ALL PERSONS OF MERCER COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA, that discrimination in the sale, rental, leasing, financing of housing or land to be used for construction of housing or in the provision of brokerage services because of race, color, religion, sex or national origin is prohibited by Title VIII of the 1968 Civil Rights Act (Federal Fair Housing Law).

IT IS THE POLICY of the Mercer County Commission, to implement programs to ensure equal opportunity in housing for all persons regardless of race, color, religion, sex or national origin. The Fair Housing Amendments Act of 1988 expands coverage to include disabled persons and families with children.

BE IT KNOWN that within available resources the county will assist all persons who feel they have been discriminated against because of race, color, religion, sex, national origin, disability or familial status to seek equity under federal and state laws by filing a complaint with the U.S. Department of Housing and Urban Development, Office of Fair Housing and Equal Opportunity, Compliance Division.

FURTHER, the Mercer County Commission proclaims April as Fair Housing Month within the county and shall encourage owners of real estate, developers and builders to become aware of their respective responsibilities and rights under the Federal Fair Housing Law and amendments and any applicable state or local laws or ordinances.

EFFECTIVE DATE: _____

_____

Bill Archer, President
Mercer County Commission

EQUAL HOUSING OPPORTUNITY

Proclamation

by Governor Jim Justice

Whereas, equal opportunity in housing is a right guaranteed to all Americans under Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968; and

Whereas, the 55th anniversary of the National Fair Housing Law provides an opportunity for all Americans to rededicate themselves to the principle of freedom of choice and to reacquaint themselves with the rights and responsibilities that are theirs under the law; and

Whereas, implementation of the fair housing policy of West Virginia requires the positive commitment, involvement, and support of each and every one of our citizens; and

Whereas, the departments and agencies of the State of West Virginia provide leadership in an effort to make fair housing a right that can be realized by all of our citizens.

Now, Therefore, Be it Resolved that I, Jim Justice, Governor of the Great State of West Virginia, do hereby proclaim ***April 2023*** as:

Fair Housing Month

in the Mountain State and encourage all citizens to support the practice and policy of fair housing in their personal lives, as well as in their workday duties.

In Witness Whereof, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of West Virginia to be affixed.

Done at the Capitol, City of Charleston, State of West Virginia, this the Eighth day of March, in the year of our Lord, Two Thousand Twenty-Three, and in the One Hundred Sixtieth year of the State.

Jim Justice
Governor

By the Governor:

Mac Warner
Secretary of State

RE: PROCLAMATION - AMERICAN RED CROSS MONTH APRIL 2023

This day on motion of Gene Buckner, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to approve a Mercer County Proclamation for American Red Cross for the Month of April 2023. Erica Manning, Executive Director of Red Cross Central and Southern West Virginia, presented Keith Gunnoe and the County Commission a coin token of appreciation.

American Red Cross

Volunteer Appreciation
Mercer County Proclamation

During Volunteer Appreciation Month, we celebrate the humanitarian spirit of Mercer County and reaffirm our commitment to help ensure no one faces a crisis alone. Caring for one another is at the heart of our community and exemplified by the people of Mercer County, whose simple acts of kindness through volunteering for the Red Cross to provide help and hope in people's most difficult moments — continuing the lifesaving legacy of Clara Barton, who founded the organization more than 140 years ago to prevent and alleviate human suffering.

One such volunteer is Mercer County Emergency Manager, Keith Gunnoe, who also serves as an American Red Cross Volunteer. We would like to recognize the work of the selfless individuals here in Mercer County who generously give their valuable time to support people in need. We hereby recognize this month of April as Volunteer Appreciation Month in honor of Keith and all those who fulfill Clara Barton's noble words, "You must never think of anything except the need and how to meet it," and ask everyone to join in this commitment.

Across the country, Red Cross volunteers serve their communities by responding to thousands of disasters of all sizes; supporting the collection of blood to help patients receive the critical care they need; supporting members of the military and their families; helping communities prepare for emergencies around the globe and much more. Last year, Red Cross volunteers provided food, shelter, comfort and hope to local families who faced emergency situations. They trained people in lifesaving skills and provided services to military members, veterans and their families.

NOW, THEREFORE, the Mercer County Commission, by virtue of the authority vested in us by the laws of Mercer County and West Virginia do hereby recognize Red Cross volunteers in April during Volunteer Appreciation Month. We encourage all citizens of Mercer County to volunteer to help their community.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, We have hereunto set our hands this 11th day of April, in the year of our Lord two thousand twenty-three, and of the Mercer County West Virginia.

Bill Archer, President | Gene Buckner,Commissioner | Greg Puckett, Commissioner

RE: EXTERIOR SERVICES SWV, INC.

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner Commissioner, the Commission voted to approve a bid from Exterior Services SWV, Inc. to refurbish Glenwood Park Game Courts. Total cost is $161,732.14. Funding in the amount of $101,732.14 will be taken from Coal Severance and $60,000.00 was already approved from American Rescue Plan.

RE: AMERCIAN RESCUE PLAN - MORATORIUM

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Bill Archer Commissioner, the Commission voted to lift Moratorium on American Rescue Plan. Gene Buckner opposed.

RE: WV STATE TREASURER'S OFFICE – INVESTMENT IN CONSOLIDATED FUND

This day on motion of Bill Archer, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett Commissioner, the Commission unanimously voted to invest $785,000.00.

RE: ESTATE – RICHARD D. DUNCAN – DECEASED

BEFORE THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF MERCER COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA

IN RE: RICHARD D. DUNCAN, DECEASED.

O-R-D-E-R

On the 11th day of April, 2023, before the Mercer County Commission, came the matter of the Estate of Richard D. Duncan, deceased, upon motion of Larry G. Sparks requesting that a ***copy*** of the Last Will and Testament of Richard D. Duncan, deceased, be accepted for recordation, and that he be appointed as Administrator. The original cannot be located.

After discussion and review of this matter by the Commission, upon proper motion and second, and it appearing proper to do so, the Commission **ORDERS** that the ***copy*** of the Last Will and Testament of Richard D. Duncan, deceased, be accepted and Larry G. Sparks shall qualify as Administrator of the estate of Richard D. Duncan, deceased.

All of which was accordingly **ADJUDGED** and **ORDERED.** The Clerk of this Commission is **DIRECTED** to take whatever actions he deems necessary to effectuate this Order**.**

Dated this the 11th day of April, 2023.

ENTER:

/s/Bill Archer
BILL ARCHER, PRESIDENT
MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION

ATTEST:

/s/Verlin T. Moye
VERLIN T. MOYE, CLERK
MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION

RE: FUNDING REQUEST – MAIN STREET BUILDERS – PAY APPLICATION

This day on motion of Gene Buckner, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the Pay Application 1 & 2 to Main Street Builders. Funding in the amount of $87,849.00.

RE: FUNDING REQUEST - FRIENDS OF PINNACLE ROCK

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to approve funding request from Friends of Pinnacle Rock, Josh Parks, Contact Person. The funding will be used for a fishing rodeo, water at Pinnacle Rock and a chimney swift tower. Funding in the amount of $5000.00 will be taken from Video/Lottery.

RE: FUNDING REQUEST – RIFF RAFF ARTS COLLECTIVE, INC.

This day on motion of Gene Buckner, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to approve funding request from Riff Raff Arts Collective, Inc. for First Friday Concerts and Peak of the Bloom. Funding in the amount of $5000.00 will be taken from Hotel/Motel.

RE: FUNDING REQUEST – EMPIRE SALVAGE & RECYCLING, INC.

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the Invoice for Demolition of Structures. Funding in the amount of $216,000.00 will be taken from Coal Severance.

RE: FUNDING REQUEST – MOUNTAIN DOMINION DISTRICT OF BUCKSKIN COUNCIL – BOY SCOUTS OF AMERICA

This matter has been tabled.

RE: DISCUSSION:

- Cornbread Ridge Road – Josh Parks, Litter Control, spoke about litter concerns at 2 locations.
- Property Maintenance/Code Enforcement – Lori Mills spoke on International Property Maintenance Code

RE: EXONERATION OF TAXES – STEPHEN & KATHY RAHALL

This day came Stephen and Kathy Rahall, by representative, and moved the Commission to correct the Land Books for 2022, touching the assessment thereon against the said Stephen and Kathy Rahall, on Pt 10.30 Ac Mary I Johnston, East River District, County of Mercer, State of West Virginia. Prosecuting Attorney waiving notice thereto.

After hearing all the evidence in the case and it appearing to the Commission that the property assessed for $121,600 class 3 – should be assessed for $121,600 class 2. It is therefore ordered that Stephen and Kathy Rahall be exonerated from the payment of taxes, or if the taxes have been paid, shall be refunded by the Sheriff of Mercer County on such erroneous assessment.

Amount of Exoneration $1,383.81

PETITION FOR CANCELLATION OF ERRONEOUS CHARGES
DATE 04/04/2023

Tax Year 2021
Beaver Pond

TICKET #	NAME	REASON		AMOUNT
200002498	Dakota Copenhaver	Active Military, Cancel Supplement	$	220.88

Tax Year 2021
Bluefield District

TICKET #	NAME	REASON		AMOUNT
300001536	Phyllis C. Hurt	Cancel Supplement Ticket was made by call from Blfd office, vehicle was reconstructed, found out after the fact	$	92.84

Tax Year 2022
Princeton

TICKET #	NAME	REASON	AMOUNT
1000000132	Harvey L Perkins	Made a 2022 supplement Should have been 2021	$ 20.82

Tax Year 2022
Beaver Pond

TICKET #	NAME	REASON	AMOUNT
200000507	Gerald F. Reed	2003 Chevrolet went up in value on supplement ticket	$ 905.40
200000495	Cody L. Green	Keying error on supplement ticket	$ 402.48

MOBILE HOMES
PETITION FOR CANCELLATION OF ERRONEOUS CHARGES
DATE 04/04/2023

Tax Year 2022 thru 2022

District: ER/BP/Rock

TICKET #	NAME	REASON	AMOUNT
310177	Tiki Ward	MH Junked	$ 63.36
313582	Eddie Carr	Did not own MH 7/1/2020	$ 140.66
310020	Tiki Ward	MH Junked	$ 63.36
80000100	Domanick Gatlin	Double assessed on MH	$ 33.46
309801	Tiki Ward	MH Junked	$ 66.78
301600	Domanick Gatlin	Double assessed on MH	$ 33.46
313250	Eddie Carr	Did not own MH 7/1/2021	$ 148.18
313051	Heather Bailey	Double assessed on MH	$ 217.54
300397	William S. Baldwin	Did not own MH 7/1/2021	$ 84.68
307376	Jessie Farmer	Did not own MH 7/1/2021	$ 74.08

AT 1:00 PM ON APRIL 11, 2023, GENE BUCKNER MADE A MOTION AND GREG PUCKETT SECONDED TO GO INTO EXECUTIVE SESSION.

AT 1:30 PM A MOTION WAS MADE BY GREG PUCKETT AND SECONDED BY GENE BUCKNER TO COME OUT OF EXECUTIVE SESSION.

COMMISSIONER PUCKETT MADE A MOTION TO RATIFY THE ACTION AS RECOMMENDED BY THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO DISMISS AN EMPLOYEE OF THE MERCER DAY REPORT CENTER. GENE BUCKNER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

COMMISSIONER PUCKETT MADE A MOTION TO ACCEPT THE RECOMMENDATION OF THE SOUTHERN REGIONAL COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS BOARD OF DIRECTORS TO CONTINUE FUNDING FOR LEGAL COUNSEL TO MOVE FORWARD WITH INVESTIGATIONS. GENE BUCKNER SECONDED THE MOTION. MOTION CARRIED.

UPON A MOTION BY GENE BUCKNER, SECONDED BY GREG PUCKETT, THE MEETING WAS ADJOURNED.

It is ordered that this Commission be and is hereby adjourned until Tuesday, April 25, 2023.

_____PRESIDENT
Bill Archer

NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

THE MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION WILL MEET IN SPECIAL SESSION ON TUESDAY, APRIL 18, 2023 AT 10:00 A.M. IN THE COUNTY COMMISSION COURTROOM LOCATED ON THE SECOND FLOOR OF THE MERCER COUNTY COURTHOUSE. THE PURPOSE OF THE MEETING IS TO LAY THE LEVY FOR FY 2023/2024.

BILL ARCHER, PRESIDENT
MERCER COUNTY COMMISSION

WEST VIRGINIA:

At a special session of the County Commission, held for the County of Mercer, at the Courthouse thereof, on Tuesday, April 18, 2023.

Present:	Gene Buckner,	Commissioner
Present:	Greg Puckett,	Commissioner
Present:	Bill Archer,	Commissioner

RE: APPROVAL – LEVY RATES FY 2023/2024

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to approve the Levy Rates for FY 2023/2024.

MERCER COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA
LEVY ORDER AND RATE SHEET
REGULAR CURRENT EXPENSE LEVY
2023 - 2024

The following is a true copy from the record of orders entered by Mercer County Commission on the 18 day of April, 2023.

Verlin T. Moyo

Signature: Verlin Moyo, County Clerk

Current Year	**Column E Certificate of Valuation Assessed Value for Tax Purposes**	**Levy Rate/$100**	**Taxes Levied**
Class I			
Personal Property	$	14.250	$
Public Utility			
Total Class I	$		$
Class II			
Real Estate	$ 996,250,090	28.500	$ 2,839,313
Personal Property	15,254,610		43,476
Total Class II	$ 1,011,504,700		$ 2,882,789
Class III			
Real Estate	$ 358,835,670	57.000	$ 2,045,363
Personal Property	320,628,691		1,827,584
Public Utility	175,658,177		1,001,252
Total Class III	$ 855,122,538		$ 4,874,199
Class IV			
Real Estate	$ 198,718,680	57.000	$ 1,132,696
Personal Property	104,343,336		594,757
Public Utility	95,421,823		543,904
Total Class IV	$ 398,483,839		$ 2,271,357
Total Value & Projected Revenue	$ **2,265,111,077**		$ **10,028,345**
Less Delinquencies, Exonerations & Uncollectable Taxes		5.00%	501,417
Less Tax Discounts		2.00%	190,539
Less Allowance for Tax Increment Financing - see worksheet (Subtracted from regular current expense taxes levied only)		.....	
Total Projected Property Tax Collection		.....	**9,336,389**
Less Assessor Valuation Fund (Subtracted from regular current expense taxes levied only)		**2.00%**	186,728
Net Amount to be Raised by Levy of Property Taxes For Budget Purposes			$ **9,149,661**

COUNTY COMMISSION MEETING-TUESDAY, APRIL 25, 2023 –3:30 P.M.

AGENDA:

OPEN WITH PRAYER
PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE
MINUTES OF PREVIOUS MEETING

APPOINTMENTS/REAPPOINTMENTS: -

Mercer County Animal Shelter
Employment & Oath of Office
Chloe Mitchem & Sarah Remines
Part-Time Kennel Technicians

Glenwood Recreation Park
Employment & Oath of Office
Daniel Powell & Brooke Pinter
Part-Time Park Attendants

Mercer County E-911 Advisory oard
Appointment & Oath of Office
Mark Brooks, Board Member

Mercer County Flood Appeals Board
Appointment & Oath of Office
Sean Wyatt, Leo Lester

CONTRACTS/AGREEMENTS/RESOLUTIONS : - Division of Justice & Community Services
VOCA Grant Contract Agreement
Misty Chambers, Advocate Coordinator

Mercer County Clerk
Precinct Consolidation
Verlin Moye, County Clerk

FUNDING REQUESTS: -

Southern Highlands MHC
Celebrate Princeton Street Fair
Ferris Wheel Rental Fee
Lisa Jones, Contact Person

Mercer County Circuit Clerk
Purchase Office Furniture
Julie Ball, Circuit Clerk

DISCUSSION: -

Cornbread Ridge Road-Litter Concerns
Ann Howard & Connie Whitt, Residents

Brush Creek Site 14 – Glenwood Park
Dam Restoration Project
Establishment of In-Kind Rates
Greg Puckett, Commissioner

PUBLIC COMMENTS:

MERCER COUNTY DILAPIDATED STRUCTURES
FORMAL HEARINGS

Name Address	Structure	Map/Parcel #
Tammy Lambert 232 Airport Road	Building	Map 25, Parcel 237
Brentmoore, LLC 220 Hayton Ave	Trailer	Map 20, Parcel 191.1
Triennium, LLC 203 Coconut Road	House	Map 20, Parcel 231
William Akers 821 Old Bramwell Road	House	Map 30H, Parcel 68
Greg Walters Estate 819 Old Bramwell Rd	House	Map 30H, Parcel 69
Emberland 4415 Simmons River Rd	House	Map 50, Parcel 211
Dunwood, LLC Crane Creek Road	House	Map 44F, Parcel 1
Joe Ball 3277 Crane Creek Road	House	Map 44F, Parcel 7
Louise Gammon 1417 Crane Creek Road	House	Map 44R, Parcel 10
Sherry Belcher 1281 Crane Creek Road	Garage	Map 44, Parcel 53

WEST VIRGINIA:

At a regular session of the County Commission, held for the County of Mercer, at the Courthouse thereof, on Tuesday, April 25, 2023.

Present:	Gene Buckner,	Commissioner
Present:	Greg Puckett,	Commissioner
Present:	Bill Archer,	Commissioner

RE: OATH – MERCER COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted to approve the Employment and Oath of Office for Chloe Mitchem for the Mercer County Animal Shelter as Part-Time Kennel Technician.

RE: OATH – MERCER COUNTY ANIMAL SHELTER

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted to approve the Employment and Oath of Office for Sara Remines for the Mercer County Animal Shelter as Part-Time Kennel Technician.

RE: OATH – GLENWOOD RECREATION PARK

This day on motion of Gene Buckner, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett, Commissioner, the Commission voted to approve the Employment and Oath of Office for Daniel Powell for Glenwood Recreation Park as Part-Time Park Attendants.

RE: OATH – GLENWOOD RECREATION PARK

This day on motion of Gene Buckner, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett, Commissioner, the Commission voted to approve the Employment and Oath of Office for Brooke Pinter for Glenwood Recreation Park as Part-Time Park Attendants.

RE: OATH – MERCER COUNTY E-911 ADVISORY BOARD

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted to approve the Appointment and Oath of Office for Mark Brooks, Board Member of the Mercer County E-911 Advisory Board.

RE: OATH – MERCER COUNTY FLOOD APPEALS BOARD

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted to approve the Appointment and Oath of Office for Sean Wyatt for the Mercer County Flood Appeals Board.

RE: OATH – MERCER COUNTY FLOOD APPEALS BOARD

This day on motion of Gene Buckner, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett, Commissioner, the Commission voted to approve the Appointment and Oath of Office for Leo Lester for the Mercer County Flood Appeals Board.

RE: DIVISION OF JUSTICE & COMMUNITY SERVICES – VOCA GRANT

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to accept a VOCA Grant Contract Agreement from Misty Chambers, Advocate Coordinator. Funding in the amount of $70,644.00 was approved.

RE: MERCER COUNTY CLERK – PRECINCT CONSOLIDATION

This day on motion of Gene Buckner, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett, Commissioner, the Commission voted Unanimously to consolidate Voting Precinct 48, Willowton, into Precinct 44, East River Ruritan.

RE: FUNDING REQUEST – SOUTHERN HIGHLANDS MHC

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to accept a funding request from Tina Hall for the Celebrate Princeton Street Fair Ferris Wheel rental fee. Funding in the amount of $5000.00 will be taken from Hotel/Motel.

RE: FUNDING REQUEST - MERCER COUNTY CIRCUIT CLERK

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to accept a funding request from Julie Ball for the purchase of office furniture. Funding in the amount of $19,832.79 will be taken from Coal Severance.

DISCUSSION:

- Cornbread Ridge – Litter Concerns from Ann Howard and Connie Whitt for a couple of houses on Cornbread Ridge.
- Brush Creek Site 14 – Glenwood Park

  Site 15 – Dan Hale Reservoir
- Establishment of In-Kind Rates - $25.00 per person per hour and $.29 square foot

  Motion Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded Gene Buckner, Commissioner.

PUBLIC COMMENTS: Children’s Flag Day is Friday April 28, 2023

DILAPIDATED STRUCTURES - FORMAL HEARINGS:

RE: DILAPIDATED STRUCTURE – TAMMY LAMBERT – 232 AIRPORT ROAD

Decision was made to continue previously made standard order of demolition from November 22, 2022 meeting with the recommendation they make an appeal to the Circuit Court.

RE: DILAPIDATED STRUCTURE – BRENTMOORE, LLC

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to issue a standard order of demolition for the trailer owned by Brentmoore, LLC located at 220 Hayton Ave, Map 20, Parcel 191.1.

RE: DILAPIDATED STRUCTURE – TRIENNIUM, LLC

This day on motion of Gene Buckner, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to issue a standard order of demolition for the house owned by Triennium, LLC located at 203 Coconut Road, Map 20, Parcel 231.

RE: DILAPIDATED STRUCTURE – WILLIAM AKERS

This day on motion of Gene Buckner, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to issue a 90 Day extension for the house owned by William Akers located at 821 Old Bramwell Road, Map 30H, Parcel 68.

RE: DILAPIDATED STRUCTURE – GREG WALTERS ESTATE

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to issue a standard order of demolition for the house owned by the Greg Walters Estate located at 819 Old Bramwell Road, Map 30H, Parcel 69.

RE: DILAPIDATED STRUCTURE – EMBERLAND

This day on motion of Gene Buckner, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to issue a standard order of demolition for the house owned by Emberland located at 4415 Simmons River Road, Map 50, Parcel 211.

RE: DILAPIDATED STRUCTURES – DUNWOOD, LLC

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to issue a standard order of demolition for the house owned by Dunwood, LLC located on Crane Creek Road, Map 44F, Parcel 1.

RE: DILAPIDATED STRUCTURES – JOE BALL

This day on motion of Gene Buckner, Commissioner, seconded by Greg Puckett, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to issue a standard order of demolition for the house owned by Joe Ball located at 3277 Crane Creek Road, Map 44F, Parcel 7.

RE: DILAPIDATED STRUCTURE – LOUISE GAMMON

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to suspend hearing for 30 days to try to get ahold of Louise Gammon and try to get consent for demolition.

RE: DILAPIDATED STRUCTURE – SHERRY BELCHER

This day on motion of Greg Puckett, Commissioner, seconded by Gene Buckner, Commissioner, the Commission voted unanimously to issue a standard order of demolition for the garage owned by Sherry Belcher located at 1281 Crane Creek Road, Map 44, Parcel 53.

It is ordered that this Commission be and is hereby adjourned until Tuesday, May 9, 2023.

_____PRESIDENT
Bill Archer