

**Morgan County Commission Meeting
Paw Paw Firehall, Paw Paw WV**

April 8, 2021

Members present:

Commissioner Joel Tuttle, President
Commissioner Sean Forney via phone
Commissioner Bill Clark

Staff Present:

Stefanie Allemong, County Administrator
Anna Padilla, Commission Secretary

Public Present: See attached sign in sheet

The meeting was opened by Joel Tuttle, Commission President at 6:08 p.m.

Approval of Agenda

Commissioner Clark made a motion to approve the agenda with the addition of the discussion of the approved broadband tower in Paw Paw. President Tuttle voted yea, Commissioner Forney voted yea and Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Administration Items

Approval of meeting minutes – 3/17 & 3/24

Commissioner Clark made a motion to approve the minutes from 3/17 and 3/24. President Tuttle voted yea, Commissioner Forney voted yea and Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Assessors Exonerations & Consolidations

Commissioner Forney made a motion to approve the exonerations for taxpayers Laing, Cox, and WV Department of Transportation for the 2020 tax year. President Tuttle voted yea, Commissioner Forney voted yea and Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Appointment to the Economic Development Board

Commissioner Forney made a motion to approve the appointment of Stefanie Allemong to the Economic Development Board to serve a three-year term, effective immediately until December 31, 2022. President Tuttle voted yea, Commissioner Forney voted yea and Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Agenda Items

Request from Morgan Wireless – Paw Paw Tower

Commissioner Forney made a motion to approve the request from Morgan Wireless to erect the tower in Paw Paw for \$4,175.00. The tower will service subscribers in the town limits. President Tuttle voted yea, Commissioner Forney voted yea and Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Request from Warm Springs Public Service District for backup generator

Commissioner Clark made a motion to approve the 15% match, \$18,533.00 for the Homeland Security Grant for the Warm Springs PSD for the backup generator to be paid for out of carry over FY 21. President Tuttle voted yea, Commissioner Forney voted yea and Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Darlene Abe – Mayor of Paw Paw

Ron Davis spoke on behalf of Mayor Abe as she was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Davis explained that April 8, 2021 is Paw Paw's 130th birthday and gave the Commission on update on the town. In the fall, the town plans to plant 130 Paw Paw trees to help control flooding with the addition of water gardens throughout the community. This will help be funded by an EPA grant for \$50,000. A quarter mile walking trail is in the process of being completed by volunteers throughout the town with the potential to upgrade parks. Also, buildings are in the process of being added to the National Register of Historic Places. As of June 30th, 2021 Paw Paw will abolish the BOE tax and use the 1% state rule for a total of a 7% tax.

Paw Paw Economic Development

Brandy Steele from the town economic development group mentioned that the group was looking into making ATV trail in the Wildlife Management Area and mentioned that the group is looking into making the economic development group an official Economic Development Authority. Brandy also mentioned that there are QE codes along the canal that are informational and go to the Paw Paw Wv website.

Paw Paw Proud Committee

Leslie Aun spoke on behalf of the Paw Paw Proud Committee and explained that the committee is working on having the town added to the National Civil War Trails registry which would bring a vast number of historians to the area. With the potential of being added to the National Civil War Trails and the National Historic Places Registries brings the problem of what amenities will the travelers use when there are hardly any?

Administrators Report

Request to extend vacation leave for employees

Commissioner Clark made a motion to approve the extension of unused vacation for county employees until July 31, 2021. President Tuttle voted yea, Commission Forney voted yea and Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Request to move the Economic Development Office

Commissioner Forney made a motion to approve the Economic Development Office to be moved to the first floor of the Dyke-Kidwell building. President Tuttle voted yea, Commissioner Forney voted yea and Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Consent Agenda

Purchases/Check Logs/Budget Revisions/Vacation Orders

Commissioner Clark made a motion to approve the Consent Agenda as presented. President Tuttle voted yea, Commissioner Forney voted yea and Commissioner Clark voted yea. Motion carried.

Adjourn

President Tuttle 7:48 p.m.

Minutes submitted by: A. Padilla