

**Board of Equalization Meeting  
February 08, 2018**

**Members present:**

Commissioner Joel Tuttle, President  
Commissioner Robert Ford  
Commissioner Ken Reed

**Also present:** Lawrence Thomas; County Administrator, Robert Ratcliff, Assessor  
Appraiser, Peggy Oakes, Commission Admin. Assistant

**There were no appointments or walk-ins for the Board of  
Equalization at the Paw Paw Senior Center, Paw Paw, WV.**

**Paw Paw Public Library – Request of Funds, Ginny DiFrancesco, Ron Davis**

Head Librarian, Ms. DiFrancesco informed the Commissioners that they are requesting funding of \$14,500.00 from the Commission for 2018 - 2019. The Library's funds were cut due to the rejection of the last School Levy. Funds are needed to enhance and expand programs and to continue their current operations. Due to the funding cuts, the library has had to reduce staff hours, it also minimizes the opportunity to create and present interesting educational programs for both youth and adults. Our staff also spends considerable time researching grant monies.

The Director is scheduled to work 24 hours/week; the Children's Program staff is scheduled to work 16 hours/week.

Library plans, contingent on funding, include:

- A bi monthly newsletter
- Library staff working with the School System. The Library is presenting "So You Don't Want to go to College" program for youth to see and hear what's available when they graduate;
- Also with the School, the Library will conduct a STEM program in May. Local agencies have agreed to participate.
- The Library has only 5 computer stations for the public to use.
- To combat Paw Paw's drug problem, develop a Teen Challenge modeled on an existing program in Cumberland.

President Tuttle has requested that Ms. DiFrancesco send him a balance sheet from their "Quick Books" program. This information will be presented to the other 2 Commissioners for review. Ms. DiFrancesco will need to contact the Commission Office to make an appointment on March 5<sup>th</sup> 2018 for their request of funds, to review in the March 2018 Budget Year.

#### **Lease for Purslane Mountain Tower**

Commissioner Ford stated that this tower is on Matthew Grimley's property. He has not gotten any royalties from having the tower on his ¼ acre property per the lease agreement. This tower houses Mineral County Sirn and Homeland Security equipment on it.

Mr. Grimley has been approached by Commissioner Ford with an offer to purchase the 100 ft. x 100 ft., plus egress rights the County currently leases from him at the cost of \$1 per year so long as no commercial entities rent space on the tower. Mr. Grimley declined the last offer. He wishes the County to begin paying \$500.00 per month going forward, even though the County is receiving no revenue for renting space on the tower. All parties agreed this was not acceptable.

County Administrator Larry Thomas has looked over the lease agreement, and it shows a 5 year lease on the tower.

Commissioner Reed wants to wait for Dick Gay to come back with legal information to present to the Commission.

#### **Recess**

President Tuttle made a motion to recess the meeting. President Tuttle voted yea, Commissioner Ford voted yea, and Commissioner Reed voted yea. Motion carried