WEST VIRGINIA:

At a regular meeting of the Raleigh County Commission held on the 17th day of March, 2026 in the Commission Courtroom thereof:

CALL TO ORDER

President Duckworth called the meeting to Order at 10:00am.

ROLL CALL

Present: Greg Duckworth, President
Linda K. Epling, Commissioner
Daniel Hall, Commissioner
Carl Roop, County Attorney
Jay Quesenberry, County Administrator
Billy Michael, Assistant County Administrator

INVOCATION AND PLEDGE OF ALLEGIANCE

Meeting was opened with the invocation by Pastor Pete Pack; Ghent Missionary Baptist Church, Ghent, WV and the recitation of the Pledge of Allegiance.

NEW BUSINESS

4.1 EXONERATIONS

Commissioner Epling moved to approve 6 exonerations, 1 cancellation and 0 refunds for personal property; and 2 exonerations, 0 cancellations and 0 letters of correction for real property as presented today. Motion was seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.
(SEE EXHIBIT A)

4.2 BUDGET REVISIONS

None

DONATION BY DELEGATE TONY AND CARL ROOP

Delegate Tony and Carl Roop presented Marsha Smith, Co-Director of the Dream Center with a check from funds they were able to obtain for the purchase of additional equipment.

4.3 NEW EMPLOYEE RALEIGH COUNTY COMMISSION- DAVID MCCRACKEN; BUILDING CODE OFFICIAL

A motion was made by Commissioner Epling to approve the hiring of David McCracken as the Building Code Official. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.
(SEE EXHIBIT B)

NEW EMPLOYEE RALEIGH COUNTY COMMISSION- MICHAEL TURNES; BUILDING CODE INSPECTOR

A motion was made by Commissioner Epling to approve the hiring of Michael Turnes as the Building Code Inspector. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.
(SEE EXHIBIT C)

4.4 PROCLAMATION HONORING REESE CHILDERS THE DESIGNER OF THE "I VOTED' STICKER

County Clerk Scott VanMeter recognized Reese Childers as the winner of the "I VOTED" sticker contest. Emma Crawford placed 2nd and Callie Dawn placed 3rd. A Proclamation in honor of Reese Childers was read along with presenting a certificate and a gift card to each lady.
(SEE EXHIBIT D)

4.5 CONSIDERATION OF A COMMUNITY CORRECTIONS GRANT APPLICATION FOR THE DAY REPORT CENTER IN THE AMOUNT OF $398,068

Commissioner Epling made a motion to approve the Community Corrections Grant Application in the amount of $398.068.00 to the Day Report Center. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.
(SEE EXHIBIT E)

4.6 CONSIDERATION OF A RESOLUTION ADOPTING RALEIGH COUNTY INFRASTRUCTURE PROJECT IN 2026

The Resolution allows all infrastructure projects in 2026 to be combined. Commissioner Epling made a motion to approve the resolution as read. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.
(SEE EXHIBIT F)

4.7 CONSIDERATION OF A COPIER LEASE FOR COUNTY CLERK PROBATE DEPARTMENT FROM PRO SOURCE

A motion was made by Commissioner Epling to approve the copier lease from Pro Source for the County Clerks Probate Department. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.
(SEE EXHIBIT G)

4.8 CONSIDERATION OF A ROAD CLOSING APPROXAMENTLY 704 FEET OF JOSHUS LANE IN GLEN WHITE, WV

Beckley Water presented a petition to close off 704 feet of Joshus Lane. The closing has been noticed properly and the joining property owners have been checked and there has been no development. There was no one present to speak for or against. Commissioner Epling made a motion to approve the closing of 704 feet of Joshus Lane. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.
(SEE EXHIBIT H)

4.9 CONSIDERATION OF A GRANT TO "SHARP" IN THE AMOUNT OF $2500 PER MONTH

Commissioner Epling made a motion to approve a Grant in the amount of $2,500.00 per month to care for orphan animals. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.
(SEE EXHIBIT I)

4.10 CONSIDERATION OF SOPHIA COAL CITY SEWER ARPA DRAWDOWN #4 IN THE AMOUNT OF $3,995.00

A motion was made by Commissioner Epling to approve Drawdown #4 from ARPA funds in the amount of $3,995.00 to the Sophia Coal City Sewer. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.
(SEE EXHIBIT J)

4.11 CONSIDERATION OF A GRANT IN THE AMOUNT OF $10,000 TO THE WEST VIRGINIA AMERICAN LEGION STATE BASEBALL TOURNAMENT TO BE HELD IN JULY

Commissioner Epling was advised by Bill Roop to not vote on this matter with the tournament being held at the Epling Stadium. Commissioner Duckworth made a motion to consider a Grant in the amount of $10,000.00 to the West Virginia American Legion State Baseball Tournament in contingent that the organization raise $58,000.00 to fund the event. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.
(SEE EXHIBIT K)

OLD BUSINESS

Commissioner Duckworth advised the following business needed to be addressed, which had been tabled from prior meetings:

The bids to demolish and dispose of the trash and debris for 6 projects of the Property Safety Agency were brought back before the Commission after being referred to Detlef Ulfers for review and recommendation at last meeting.

5.1 AB559 – (160 SHREWSBURY LANE, DANIELS)

A motion was made by Commissioner Epling to accept the bid of $4,000.00 by Empire Salvage for the demolition and disposal of all structures for AB559 at 160 Shrewsbury Lane, Daniels. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.
(SEE EXHIBIT L)

5.2 AB604 – (174 OLD GROVE RD, MACARTHUR)

A motion was made by Commissioner Epling to accept the bid of $6,000.00 by Empire Salvage for the demolition and disposal of all structures for AB604 at 174 Old Grove Road, MacArthur. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.
(SEE EXHIBIT L)

5.3 AB629 – (2326 TAMS HWY, SOAK CREEK)

A motion was made by Commissioner Epling to accept the bid of $5,500.00 by Empire Salvage for the demolition and disposal of all structures for AB629 at 2326 Tams Hwy, Soak Creek. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.
(SEE EXHIBIT L)

5.4 AB756 – (118, 148, 160, 222, 286 LANDSING ST, MAPLE FORK)

A motion was made by Commissioner Epling to accept the bid of $12,000.00 by Empire Salvage for the demolition and disposal of all structures for AB756 at 118, 148, 160, 222, and 286 Landsing Street, Maple Fork. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.
(SEE EXHIBIT L)

5.5 AB767 - (142 BEECH AVE, BECKLEY)

A motion was made by Commissioner Epling to accept the bid of $3,999.00 by Whitten Construction for the demolition and disposal of all structures for AB767 at 142 Beech Ave, Beckley. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.
(SEE EXHIBIT L)

5.6 AB778 – (113 BEECH AVE, BECKLEY)

A motion was made by Commissioner Epling to accept the bid of $6,200.00 by Empire Salvage for the demolition and disposal of all structures for AB778 at 113 Beech Ave, Beckley. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.
(SEE EXHIBIT L)

5.7 AB701 – (2105 HARPER RD, BECKLEY)

A motion was made by Commissioner Epling to accept the bid of $8,000.00 by Empire Salvage for the demolition and disposal of horse stable structures of a for AB701 at 2105 Harper Road, Beckley. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.
(SEE EXHIBIT L)

PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

Curtis Yearego – founder of nonprofit Disenabled Incorporation. Asking for a partnership in funding with the Raleigh County Commission. Commissioner Duckworth has suggested Curtis meet with Jay Quesenberry with all the necessary information to present to the Commission for a decision on what they can provide.

MINUTES

Commissioner Epling moved to approve the January 6, 2026 Organizational minutes of this Commission. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.

Commissioner Epling moved to approve the January 6, 2026 Regular minutes of this Commission. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.

VACATION ORDERS

Commissioner Epling moved to approve the Vacation Orders from March 3, 2026 to March 16, 2026 inclusive. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.
(SEE EXHIBIT M)

FINAL ACCOUNTINGS AND WAIVERS OF FINAL SETTLEMENT

The Objections and Exceptions of the Fiduciary Supervisor were read into the minutes.
(SEE EXHIBIT N)

Commissioner Epling made a motion to accept the recommendation of the fiduciary commissioner of Dinah Lacy. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried unanimously.
(SEE EXHIBIT O)

ADJOURNMENT

Commissioner Epling moved to adjourn this meeting until the next regular scheduled meeting of this Commission on April 7, 2026 at 10:00 a.m. Seconded by Commissioner Hall and motion carried.

Gregory Duckworth
President