

**REGULAR ADJOURNED SESSION OF THE COUNTY COMMISSION OF BROOKE COUNTY,
WEST VIRGINIA, HELD TUESDAY JANUARY 3, 2012**

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The County Commission of Brooke County, West Virginia, met in regular adjourned session this 3rd day of January, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. at the Courthouse.

**Present: Marty Bartz, President
Norma Tarr, Commissioners
Sylvia J. Benzo, County Clerk**

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The Commission held their preliminaries before the meeting including a prayer and pledge of allegiance.

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A motion was made by Norma Tarr, seconded by Marty Bartz, and unanimously passed to approve the minutes of the December 27, 2011 meeting.

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This being the first meeting of the month of January, 2012, fiduciary matters were presented to the Commission for approval after having been cared for in the absence of the commission by the County Clerk. The fiduciary meeting will remain open until the end of the regular meeting and if no objections are filed will be adjourned at the same time as the regular meeting.

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Commissioner Bartz indicated that he prepared a press release to explain the hiring process in selecting a qualified candidate to represent the Wellsburg District as an interim County Commissioner due to the death of Bernard Kazienko. The interim position will be in effect until the citizen's vote in the General Election of November, 2012 to decide who they want to represent the Wellsburg District for the next four years. Commissioner Bartz indicated that it was an honor to work with the late Bernard Kazienko and he will be missed, however; he felt that this democratic way in selecting his predecessor would have been approved by him. The Commission advertised for applicants and received seventeen (17) applications, however; four candidates were not interviewed because one was a Republican and the others were not of the Wellsburg District. Commissioner Bartz personally interviewed the other applicants and he commended all the applicants. The Commission had to make a decision within thirty (30) days of Commissioner Kazienko's death or it would go to the Democrat Executive Committee for an appointment. He felt it was Norma Tarr and his responsibility to appoint a commissioner, therefore; his nomination for the new Commissioner was Kirk Kazienko. He felt Kirk Kazienko did a wonderful interview, comes highly qualified with a degree in Business Administration from WVU and made it apparent that he has no desire to enter the 2012 political arena and will not be swayed by political pressure or fear of unpopular decisions. He explained Kirk's goals to do whatever he can to improve the lives of Brooke County citizens and to assist the Commission in the fiscal stability. Commissioner Bartz indicated that it is not uncommon to appoint a son, husband, wife, etc. of a deceased politician to the vacancy for an interim term if the person meets the requirements. Norma Tarr did not second the motion for Kirk Kazienko even though she felt Commissioner Bartz statements were true. Ms.

Commissioner Bartz will provide him with a list. Ron Michaux, also an interim candidate, felt that after the interview that Commissioner Bartz did the right process and felt that Kirk Kazienko was the right choice as the political process was taken out of the appointment. Wayne Buxton indicated that the request was made last week for the commission to do for the betterment of this county and it was not followed. Commissioner Tarr stated that Tim Ennis would resign his appointment to the House of Delegates and it was questioned if she had the appointment planned. She indicated that she assumed Mr. Ennis would have to resign. Commissioner Bartz indicated that he talked with Tim Ennis and told him how his heart was in this situation and he indicated that Mr. Ennis seemed to be fine. Mr. Bartz felt the voters should decide the nomination and that there were a lot of good candidates he was impressed with on their interviews. Sharon Pavlic stated that this was not just a sentimental thing (the appointment). It was indicated Kirk Kazienko has a degree and came with a good interview. Commissioner Bartz put everything on a matrix concerning the interviews, which took hours to do. (See copy of Press Release provided by Commissioner Bartz).

Kirk Kazienko was present and expressed his appreciation to Commissioner Bartz for doing everything he could to find a viable candidate for the position. He felt that Commissioner Bartz was going into the process with an open mind and genuine interest in finding the best person for the job, however; was disappointed that Commissioner Tarr entered the search half-heartedly. He felt his father was truly devoted to the County and would have taken the time to interview the applicants. He would have seen the value of new ideas and insights and how those values could have helped Brooke County move forward. He felt the lack of respect for the process by Commissioner Tarr was a detriment to his father. Tim Ennis came into the meeting and Mr. Kazienko congratulated Tim Ennis on the appointment.

Commissioner Bartz explained his vote to Mr. Ennis and what happened prior to him coming in. Mr. Ennis indicated that no one wanted to be here today because of the circumstances. Mr. Bartz read a part of the minutes of the December 13th and December 27th meetings where Commissioner Tarr indicated that she was not going to do any interviews and he indicated he was upset of what happened here today.

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The Commission indicated they will take care of the rest of their agenda business next week.

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Invoices and vouchers were approved, and the following checks were ordered written:

General County Fund – Check Nos. 8121 through 8141 for \$25,338.65
Ambulance Fund – Check Nos. 1352 through 1354 for \$2,668.64
Ambulance Fund II – Check Nos. 548 through 551 for \$1,230.15
Dog Fund – Check No. 663 for \$1,807.69
Business Development Fund – Check Nos. 123 through 124 for \$8,715.19

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No further business to come before the commission a motion was made by Norma Tarr, seconded by Marty Bartz, and unanimously passed to adjourn.

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Bernard L. Kazienko, President

Teste:

Sylvia J. Benzo, County Clerk