

## **SPECIAL SESSION:**

State of West Virginia, County of Jefferson, to-wit:

At a Public Hearing of the County Commission of said County and State held at the Jefferson County Commission Meeting Room on the lower floor of the Old Charles Town Library at 200 E. Washington Street, on Wednesday, January 2, 2013 beginning at 10:00 o'clock a.m.

### **PUBLIC HEARING**

#### **Present were:**

Patricia Noland, President  
Dale Manuel, Vice President  
Lyn Widmyer, Commissioner  
Walt Pellish, Commissioner  
Jane Tabb, Commissioner

Debbie Keyser, Jefferson County Administrator  
Cynthia Schott, Administrative Assistant  
Lynn Fields, Probate Office  
Stephanie Grove, Esquire – Attorney for Commission

Larry Slaughter, Executor of the Blanche V. Nelson Estate

Stephen Slaughter, Petitioner  
Andrew Skinner, Esq., Witness for Estate  
Deborah A. Mason Rooney, Witness for Mr. Stephen Slaughter

#### **In regard: Public Hearing – Petition by Mr. Stephen Slaughter to remove Mr. Larry Slaughter as Executor of their mother's estate, Ms. Blanche V. Nelson.**

Ms. Noland convened the Public Hearing at 10:00 a.m.

Ms. Noland administered the oath to Mr. Stephen Slaughter, Mr. Larry Slaughter, Mr. Andrew Skinner and Ms. Deborah A. Mason Rooney.

Mr. Stephen Slaughter testified to the Commission by reading his remarks. Mr. Stephen Slaughter outlined his concerns with Mr. Larry Slaughter remaining as Executor of the Blanche V. Nelson Estate. Mr. Stephen Slaughter contends that Mr. Larry Slaughter is not working in a timely manner to close the estate and there are inaccuracies in the accounting to the Probate Office. Mr. Stephen Slaughter expressed concern at the lack of communication that Mr. Larry Slaughter has demonstrated through this process. Mr. Stephen Slaughter also has concerns that Mr. Larry Slaughter has taken his mother's home off the real estate market with no foreseen intent of putting it back on.

Mr. Larry Slaughter testified to the Commission that he believes he has honored his mother's wishes and has to the best of his knowledge given an accurate account to the probate office.

Ms. Deborah A. Mason Rooney testified that she also has concerns at the lack of communication through this process from Mr. Larry Slaughter. She believes there are inaccuracies in the accounting that has been submitted to the Probate Office and she is also concerned about the length of time that closing the estate has taken considering the estate is very small.

Mr. Skinner, Esq. testified only to the fact that he had prepared the Will for Ms. Blanche V. Nelson and had not given any advice to Mr. Larry Slaughter in his capacity as Executor as it would be a conflict of interest.

After listening to the testimony of those present, it was the opinion of the Commission that the Slaughter Family should attempt to reach an amicable resolution to this situation by entering into mediation with the Fiduciary Commissioner, Mr. D. Frank Hill, Esquire.

**Motion by Mr. Manuel to direct the Slaughter's to enter into mediation with the Fiduciary Commissioner, Mr. D. Frank Hill, Esquire with a report back to the Commission within 90 days.  
Motion seconded by Ms. Widmyer and unanimously approved.**

Motion by Mr. Manuel to adjourn at 11:40. Motion seconded by Mr. Pellish and unanimously approved.

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PATSY A. NOLAND, PRESIDENT